

Bath & North East Somerset Council	
MEETING	Council
MEETING DATE:	16th May 2024
TITLE:	Constitution: Establishment of Constitution Working Group and minor updates for noting
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
<p>List of attachments to this report:</p> <p>Appendix 1 - Draft TOR of Constitution Working group</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Minor amendments made by Monitoring Officer</p>	
<p>Link to the Constitution; https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s79846/Constitution.pdf</p>	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 At the time of adoption of the revised Constitution at Council in July 2022, Council noted that further rationalisation work would need to be done on the Financial Regulations and Contract Standing orders. This report invites establishment of the Constitution Working Group (CWG) to consider those sections and pick up any further items included in scope.
- 1.2 Various minor amendments have been made by the Monitoring Officer as part of his delegated authority to make minor revisions (Constitution rule 1.13) and these are reported here for noting.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to;

- 2.1 Agree the Terms of Reference and scope of the Constitution Working group at Appendix 1 and invite each political group to put forward their nomination(s) in due course, with the intention of bringing proposed changes to November 2024 Council;
- 2.2 Note the minor amendments made by the Monitoring Officer, as part of his delegated authority, as set out in Appendix 2.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 Finance officers are planning to produce revised Financial Regulations for the Constitution Working Group to consider and report to the November Council. Dependent upon the secondary regulations to support the Procurement Act 2023 being laid in parliament, Procurement officers are also hoping to produce revised Contract Standing Orders for the CWG to consider and report to the same Council meeting.
- 3.2 It is anticipated that the CWG will meet in September/October 2024 to consider proposals in time for them to be reported to November Council. At this stage, it is not possible to set out the frequency of meetings, as that will depend on the CWG, and whether further items are added for their review.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 A local authority is under a duty to prepare and keep up to date its Constitution under s.9P Local Government Act 2000 as amended (Localism Act 2011).

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1 The work undertaken in preparing this report is part of the normal role of the staff involved.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 The risks of not agreeing necessary changes may lead to compromised or ineffective decision making.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 None.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 8.1 None.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 None.

10 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 Group Leaders, Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive, S.151 & Policy Development & Scrutiny Officer have been consulted in the drafting of this report.

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Background papers	Constitution
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	