

| Bath & North East Somerset Council | | |
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| MEETING | Council | |
| MEETING DATE: | 20 th March 2025 | |
| | | |
| TITLE: | Constitution: Recommendations from Constitution Working Group | |
| WARD: | All | |
| AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM | | |
| List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 – Constitution extracts highlighting proposed amendments | | |
| Link to the Constitution; https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s79846/Constitution.pdf | | |

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Constitution Working Group (CWG) was re-established at Council on 16th May 2024, primarily to address the outstanding work needed on the Financial Regulations and Contract Standing orders. They have also considered some minor revisions which are brought to Council for adoption.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to;

- 2.1 Agree the amendments to the Council Rules (Section 3.1) as set out in Appendix 1, as recommended by the Constitution Working Group; and
- 2.2 Agree that any parallel sections in Cabinet rules (Section 3.2) are also amended.

3 THE REPORT

3.1 The CWG have met 3 times since last May. They have considered an early draft of revised Financial Regulations and acknowledged further work is needed for these, and for the Contract Standing Orders. CWG Members also brought up other aspects of the Council Procedural rules which they wanted to review. Those that they agreed are now recommended to Council for adoption.

3.2 The amendments are minor and seek to streamline processes and pick up one omission from the main Constitution 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 have been consulted in the drafting of this report.

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| Contact person | Jo Morrison, Democratic Services Manager |
| Background papers | Constitution |
| Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format | |