

Bath & North East Somerset Council	
MEETING	Council
MEETING DATE:	21st November 2024
TITLE:	Constitution: Minor updates
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
<p>List of attachments to this report:</p> <p>Appendix 1 - Minor amendments for agreement</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Minor amendments made by Monitoring Officer</p> <p>Appendix 3 - CWG timetable</p>	
<p>Link to the Constitution; https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s79846/Constitution.pdf</p>	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 Council in May 2024 established the Constitution Working Group (CWG) with the main focus of work being the Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders (an update on this work is below).
- 1.2 Members also proposed various other areas for review, two of which received immediate agreement from the CWG and are proposed here. The report also brings to Members' attention some minor textual amendments made by the Monitoring Officer.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to;

- 2.1 Agree the amendments in Appendix 1 considered and proposed by the Constitution Working Group;
- 2.2 Note the changes made by the Monitoring Officer; and
- 2.3 Note the timetable for Constitution Working Group items.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The CWG has now met on 2 occasions and further meetings are scheduled until May AGM 2025.

Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders

- 3.2 This was the main rationale for the CWG being reconvened. Work on the Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders is planned for CWG meetings next year, before coming to Council for approval.

Items for agreement at this meeting

- 3.3 The CWG considered some minor updates at its meeting in September and two items were agreed for recommendation to this Council meeting. These are set out in Appendix 1.
- 3.4 The first item corrects an omission from the updated Constitution regarding the Chief Executive's power to add an item to an agenda.
- 3.5 The second item proposes a deadline for alternative budget proposals, to enable sufficient time for proper consideration by the Chief Finance Officer.

Minor amendments agreed by the Monitoring Officer

- 3.1 Two minor and correctional amendments have also been identified and actioned, following agreement 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 [Appendix 2].

Further items under consideration

- 3.2 At its first meeting, CWG Members proposed various further items which they would like to review. These are scheduled for consideration at future CWG meetings and the proposed timetable is attached for information.

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 Constitution Working Group, Monitoring Officer, Chief Executive & S.151 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	