

	<p><b>Council</b></p> <p><b>30 July 2019</b></p>
<p><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Report of the Constitution &amp; General Purposes Committee – Public Participation</b></p>
<p><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Monitoring Officer and Chief Legal Advisor Head of Governance</p>
<p><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>Annex 1 – Report to Constitution and General Purposes Committee – 25 June 2019</p> <p>Appendix 1A – Minutes of the Constitution and General Purposes Committee held on 25 June 2019</p> <p>Appendix A – Article 3 (Clean)</p> <p>Appendix B – Article 3 (Tracked)</p> <p>Appendix C – Public Participation Benchmarking</p>
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## Summary

The Constitution and General Purposes Committee at a meeting held on 25 June 2019 considered a report on Public Participation. Except for minor administrative matters which are delegated to the Monitoring Officer (following consultation with the Chairman of the Constitution and General Purposes Committee), only Full Council may amend the Constitution. Council are therefore recommended to approve the Constitution amendments proposed by the Committee.

## **Recommendations**

- 1. That Council note the report to and decisions of the Constitution & General Purposes Committee held on 25 June 2019 (as set out in report at Annex 1 and minutes at Annex 1A) and approve the revisions to Article 3 (Residents and Public Participation) as set out in Appendices A and B.**
- 2. That Council authorise the Monitoring Officer and Chief Legal Advisor to implement these revisions and publish a revised Constitution.**
- 3. That Council note the public participation benchmarking information attached at Appendix C.**

### **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 As set out in the report attached at Annex 1.
- 1.2 In addition to the report attached at Annex 1, Council are requested to note the public participation benchmarking information set out at Appendix C. The authorities selected provide a representative cross section of councils with an executive/scrutiny or committee system, plus county, district/borough, metropolitan and London borough councils.

### **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 As set out in the report attached at Annex 1.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 3.1 Options were put forward to the Committee and the attached report reflects the options chosen (as amended by the Committee) for recommendation to Council following discussion and debate.

### **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer will make arrangements for any changes agreed to be actioned, together with minor drafting and housekeeping changes. The revised Constitution will be published online.
- 4.2 The Constitution and General Purposes Committee will continue to proactively keep the Constitution under review and may make further recommendations in the next municipal year.

### **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

#### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

- 5.1.1 As set out in the report attached at Annex 1.

## **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

5.2.1 None.

## **5.3 Legal and Constitutional References**

5.3.1 Council Constitution, Article 4 states that “The Full Council is a formal meeting of all Councillors and is required by law to take certain important decisions as set out below. Full Council also approves a number of key plans and strategies, which together form the Policy Framework:....Adopting and changing the Constitution (unless delegated).”

5.3.2 Council Constitution, Article 7 states that the Constitution and General Purposes Committee terms of reference includes to: “Keep under review all aspects of the Council’s Constitution so as to ensure that it remains current and fit for purpose, and to make recommendations thereon to the Council.”.

5.3.3 Council Constitution, Article 9 states that “The Monitoring Officer will maintain an up-to-date version of the Constitution and will ensure that it is available for consultation by Members, staff and the public”.

## **5.4 Risk Management**

5.4.1 As set out in the report attached at Annex 1.

## **5.5 Equalities and Diversity**

5.5.1 As set out in the report attached at Annex 1.

## **5.6 Consultation and Engagement**

5.6.1 As set out in the report attached at Annex 1.

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 As set out in the report attached at Annex 1.