

Report of Governance Officer
Report to Head of Democratic Services
Date: 30 July 2019
Subject: Constitutional Amendments

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary

1. Main issues

- This report recommends amendments to the constitution as the 'Climate Change Advisory Committee' is renamed 'Climate Emergency Advisory Committee', to better reflect the Climate Emergency declared by the Council in March 2019.

2. Best Council Plan Implications (click [here](#) for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)

- There are no implications for the Best Council Plan.

3. Resource Implications

- There are no resource implications.

Recommendations

- a) The Head of Democratic Services is requested to amend the following documents within the constitution to reflect the change of Committee name:
- Council Procedure Rules
 - Council Committees' Terms of Reference
 - Members Allowance Scheme

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The Council declared a Climate Emergency in Leeds at the Council meeting held 27 March 2019.
- 1.2 At the Annual Meeting held 22 May 2019, Council created the Climate Change Advisory Committee in recognition of the seriousness of the issue.
- 1.3 This report recommends amendments to the constitution as the 'Climate Change Advisory Committee' is renamed the 'Climate Emergency Advisory Committee', to better reflect the Climate Emergency declared by the Council in March 2019.

2. Background information

- 2.1 Article 15.2.3 provides that the City Solicitor, in her role as Monitoring Officer, is authorised to make any changes to any part of the Constitution which are required:
 - As a result of legislative change or decisions of the Council or Executive to enable them to maintain it up to date; or
 - For the purposes of clarification only.

The City Solicitor has sub delegated this authority to the Head of Democratic Services.

3. Main issues

- 3.1 At the first meeting of the Committee, Members considered whether the Committee name adequately expressed the role and purpose of the Committee. It was agreed that the name of the Committee should be changed to the 'Climate Emergency Advisory Committee', to better reflect the Climate Emergency declared by the Council in March 2019.
- 3.2 Amendments are therefore recommended to remove all references in the Constitution to the 'Climate Change Advisory Committee' and replace with 'Climate Emergency Advisory Committee'. The amendments are shown at Appendix 1 to 3 attached.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 The Executive Member for Climate Change, Transport and Sustainable Development was consulted in June 2019, prior to the first meeting of the Committee, and was supportive of the proposal.
- 4.1.2 All Group Leaders were consulted following the first meeting of the Committee, and were supportive of the proposal.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

- 4.2.1 There are no implications.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

4.3.1 There are no implications.

Climate Emergency

4.3.2 The name change will reflect the Council's commitment to the Climate Emergency.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

4.4.1 There are no implications.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.5.1 This decision will be treated as a significant operational decision. It will be published on the Council's website but is not eligible for call in.

4.6 Risk management

4.6.1 Amending the constitution will ensure clarity and avoid confusion.

5. Conclusions

5.1 Amending the name of the Committee will adequately express the role and purpose of the Committee.

6. Recommendations

6.1.1 The Head of Democratic Services is requested to amend the following documents within the constitution to reflect the change of Committee name:

- Council Procedure Rules
- Council Committees' Terms of Reference
- Members Allowance Scheme

7. Background documents¹

7.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.