

Report of City Solicitor

Report to General Purposes Committee

Date: 15th March 2021

Subject: Amendments to the Constitution – Council Procedure Rules

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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 sets out amendments to the Constitution, required to provide consistency in relation to the arrangements for substitution for plans panels.

2. Best Council Plan Implications (see the [latest version of the Best Council Plan](#))

- The Constitution must be maintained up to date and fit for purpose in line with the Council’s Corporate Governance Code and Framework in addition to furthering the Council’s value of being “open, honest and trusted.”

3. Resource Implications

- There are no implications for this report.

Recommendations

The General Purposes Committee is requested to recommend to Full Council amendments to the Council Procedure Rules as shown at Appendix A attached.

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 This report sets out proposed amendments to the Constitution.

2. Main issues

Council procedure Rules

2.1 Article 26 of The Council Procedure Rules set out the arrangements for substitution to Plans Panels and the Development Plan Panel.

2.2 There is inconsistency of substitution arrangements across each panel and it is recommended that the provisions are brought together in one rule to ensure consistency and provide clarity in the arrangements.

2.3 Proposed amendments are set out at Appendix A attached.

3. Corporate considerations

3.1 Consultation and engagement

3.1.1 Consultation with Group leaders, Whips and the Leader Councillor James Lewis has been undertaken, their comments have formulated the proposed amendments set out at Appendix A.

3.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

3.2.1 There are no implications for this report.

3.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

3.3.1 The Constitution must be maintained up to date and fit for purpose in line with the Council's Corporate Governance Code and Framework in addition to furthering the Council's value of being "open, honest and trusted."

Climate Emergency

3.3.2 There are no implications for this report.

3.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

3.4.1 There are no implications for this report.

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

3.5.1 There are no implications for this report.

3.6 Risk management

3.6.1 There are no implications for this report.

4. Conclusions

4.1 Amendments to the Council Procedure Rules will provide consistency and clarity and ensure that the Council's governance and decision making arrangements are coherent and transparent.

5. Recommendations

5.1 The General Purposes Committee is requested to recommend to Full Council amendments to the Council Procedure Rules as shown at Appendix A attached.

6. Background documents¹

6.1 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.