

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Council
Date of Meeting:	25 July 2023
Subject:	Constitution Review Working Group
Report of:	Monitoring Officer
Head of Service/Director:	Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Lead Member for Corporate Governance
Number of Appendices:	One

Executive Summary:

To agree Terms of Reference for a Constitution Review Working Group to review the Constitution and bring its recommendations to Council for consideration. Thereafter, to annually review the Constitution and, in particular, to evaluate any changes made.

Recommendation:

To AGREE the formation of a Constitution Review Working Group with the Terms of Reference attached at Appendix 1.

Financial Implications:

There are the costs of holding meetings which can be accommodated within existing budgets.

Legal Implications:

Any changes recommended by the Constitution Review Working Group will need to be agreed by Council.

Environmental and Sustainability Implications:

There are no such implications if the recommendation is agreed, save for the transport of relevant Members to the Council Offices.

Resource Implications (including impact on equalities):

The review of the Constitution is part of the work of the Monitoring Officer and this is better done with Member input at an early stage.

Safeguarding Implications:

There are no safeguarding implications.

Impact on the Customer:

The aim of the review is to make the Constitution clearer for all those wishing to refer to it.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Constitution of the Council is a matter to be agreed by Council itself. It is important that the Constitution is reviewed annually and this is best done by the Monitoring Officer, in conjunction with some Members.

2.0 THE PROPOSAL

2.1 The Constitution Review Working Group will look across the Constitution but, in particular, at encouraging public participation in meetings.

3.0 CONSULTATION

3.1 This was a report requested by Council at its June 2023 meeting

4.0 ASSOCIATED RISKS

4.1 All Members and Officers will need to be made aware of the implications of any Constitutional changes proposed to and agreed by Council.

5.0 MONITORING

5.1 The Constitution, and any changes to it, will be monitored going forward by the Constitution Review Working Group on an annual basis.

6.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES/COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

6.1 Any changes to the present Constitution will impact on how matters are agreed by the Council. The budget, election matters and the adoption of new policies will remain the preserve of Council.

Background Papers: Tewkesbury Borough Council Constitution and Council Report of 20 June 2023.

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Appendices: Appendix 1 - Terms of Reference