

REPORT TO CABINET

Open/Exempt		Would any decisions proposed :			
Any especially affected Wards	Mandatory/	Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide		YES/NO	
	Discretionary/	Need to be recommendations to Council		YES/NO	
	Operational	Is it a Key Decision		YES/NO	
Lead Member: Brian Long E-mail: <i>cllr.brian.long@west-norfolk.gov.uk</i>			Other Cabinet Members consulted: n/a		
			Other Members consulted: Group Leaders		
Lead Officer: Alexa Baker E-mail: <i>alexa.baker@west-norfolk.gov.uk</i> Direct Dial:			Other Officers consulted: Chief Executive and Democratic Services Manager		
Financial Implications YES/NO	Policy/ Personnel Implications YES/NO	Statutory Implications YES/NO	Equal Impact Assessment YES/NO If YES: Pre-screening/ Full Assessment	Risk Management Implications YES/NO	Environmental Considerations YES/NO

Date of meeting: 22 September 2020

AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS AND ARTICLES

Summary

This report presents the draft amendments to the Standing Orders and Articles within the Borough Council's Constitution following on from the meetings with Group Leaders and the representative for the Independent Group.

The proposed changes are attached. The amendments are shown as 'tracked changes' in the attached documents.

The draft amendments were presented to the Corporate Performance Panel on 2 September 2020, which approved the amendments as drafted for recommendation to Cabinet, subject to the Monitoring Officer ensuring there is consistency on the status of Council bodies.

Recommendation

To consider the draft amendments to the Standing Orders and Articles attached and whether the proposed changes should be recommended to Full Council for approval as drafted.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that the Council's Constitution remains fit for purpose, reflects existing legislation and best practice

1 Background

1.1 Group Leaders met with the Chief Executive, Democratic Services Officers and the Legal Officer to discuss proposed changes to the Borough Council's Constitution.

2 Options Considered

- 2.1 The aforesaid meetings were convened following an acceptance between the parties that there were parts of the Council's Constitution which required updating.
- 2.2 Various proposals were put forward, and the proposed changes attached incorporate the suggestions for which there appeared most consensus.
- 2.3 The draft amendments are therefore not presented as agreed changes by all Group Leaders, but are suggestions for comment and consideration.

3 Policy Implications

None

4 Financial Implications

None

5 Personnel Implications

None

6 Environmental Considerations

None

7 Statutory Considerations

A local authority is required to prepare and keep up to date its constitution under s.9P Local Government Act 2000.

8 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

n/a

9 Risk Management Implications

Conducting a 'health check' of the Borough Council's Constitution promotes good governance by ensuring the Constitution is fit for purpose and up to date, thereby complying with its statutory duty.

10 Declarations of Interest / Dispensations Granted

None

11 Background Papers

The current Constitution is available to view on the Borough Council's website at <https://democracy.west->

norfolk.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=429&Mid=2220&Ver=4&bcr=1&info=1