

**Constitution Review**

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Relevant Portfolio Holder       | Cllr Bill Hartnett   |
| Portfolio Holder Consulted      | Yes  |
| Relevant Head of Service        | Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services |
| Ward(s) Affected                | All  |
| Ward Councillor(s) Consulted    | N/A  |
| Key Decision / Non-Key Decision | Non key  |

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 The Council reviews its constitution annually. This report outlines updates to the Council's constitution for the Council's consideration.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Council is requested to RESOLVE**

**That the Council's constitution as presented be approved.**

**3. KEY ISSUES**

**Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**Legal Implications**

- 3.2 The content of parts of the Council's constitution are set out in law. Whilst it is a "living" document and may be updated by the Council at any time during the year, the opportunity is taken each year to review its contents.

- 3.3 The Monitoring Officer has delegated authority to make minor changes to the form – not substance – of the constitution so that it reflects current arrangements. For example, references to the Worcestershire Regulatory Services Joint Committee have been changed to refer to the Regulatory Services Board.

**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.4 There are no direct service or operational implications arising from this report.
- 3.5 There are no material changes to the constitution this year. Updates have been made as follows:

- Terminology has been tidied up in the terms of reference of the Standards hearings sub-committees;
- The guidance for witnesses for Overview and Scrutiny exercises has been simplified;
- In the scheme of delegations, the delegations relating to the processes for dealing with RIPA requirements (the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act) have been updated to take account of changes in the law. The changes do not extend any officer powers. The processes were inspected by the Surveillance Commissioner in March 2016 and found to be compliant.

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

3.6 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

There are no specific high level risks arising from this report.

**5. APPENDICES**

The constitution is available on the Council's website with the agenda for this meeting of the Council. Paper copies have also been placed in Group rooms and are available for inspection from Democratic Services.

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

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