

29 October 2020

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE & MONITORING OFFICER**REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION & SCHEME OF DELEGATION****EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None.

PURPOSE

For the Audit & Governance Committee to comment on and endorse the proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution (including the Scheme of Delegation) in advance of its submission to Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That the Committee comment on and endorse the proposed amendments to the Council's constitution (including the scheme of delegation) prior to its submission to Council.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Articles 13 and 16 of the Constitution require the Monitoring Officer to maintain, monitor and review the operation of the Constitution to ensure that the aims and principles of the Constitution are given full effect. Any changes to the Constitution must be approved by the Full Council after consideration of the proposal by the Monitoring Officer and the Audit & Governance Committee (as necessary).

The Audit & Governance Committee's review of the proposed changes to the Constitution (including scheme of delegation) at **Appendix 1**, in advance of Council's consideration, supports the Council in this review.

In summary, this review has included:

- Advice from legal advisors, Anthony Collins as well as via our own shared service arrangement with South Staffordshire Council, to ensure the document remains lawful and accords with best practice.
- Consultation from the Corporate Management Team to ensure the document's application remains practical and up to date for staff and delegation changes.
- Consideration and endorsement by the Constitution Working Group (comprising cross party membership) which met on 2 March 2020, prior to the Covid-19 restrictions.
- Update on the financial limits as set out in the revised Financial Guidance which the Audit & Governance Committee approved in July 2020.

Following the Audit & Governance Committee's review and any actions /

amendments subsequently proposed, the revised Constitution will be submitted to the Council for final approval in December 2020.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND

None.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

None.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

None.

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Proposed Constitution and Scheme of Delegation with tracked changes.