



## Joint Report of the Presiding Member, Monitoring Officer & Head of Democratic Services

Council - 26 September 2019

### Amendments to the Council Constitution

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Purpose:</b>                    | To make amendments in order to simplify, improve and / or add to the Council Constitution. A decision of Council is required to change the Council Constitution.     |
| <b>Policy Framework:</b>           | Council Constitution.  |
| <b>Consultation:</b>               | Access to Services, Finance, Legal & Constitution Working Group.   |
| <b>Recommendation(s):</b>          | It is recommended that:<br><br>1) The amendments to the Council Constitution as outlined in Paragraph 4 together with any further consequential changes be approved. |
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| <b>Finance Officer:</b>            | Ben Smith  |
| <b>Legal Officer:</b>              | Tracey Meredith  |
| <b>Access to Services Officer:</b> | Rhian Millar   |

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In compliance with the Local Government Act 2000, the City and County of Swansea has adopted a Council Constitution. From time to time it is necessary to review the Council Constitution in line with legislative requirements and to ensure good governance arrangements.
- 1.2 A number of issues have arisen since adoption and in order to maintain the aims, principles and procedures set out in Articles 1 and 15 of the Council Constitution, it is proposed that the amendments set out below should be made to the Constitution.
- 1.3 The terms of reference of the Constitution Working Group includes keeping under review the Council Constitution and to make appropriate recommendations for change.

## **2. Delegated Minor Corrections to the Council Constitution**

- 2.1 Article 15 “Review and Revision of the Constitution” allows the Monitoring Officer to make changes / updates to the Council Constitution in relation to:
- a) Legislation;
  - b) Changes to the Officer structure or changes of responsibility within the Officer Structure;
  - c) The need to correct any administrative or typing errors.
- 2.2 The Monitoring Officer has not made any changes.

## **3. Amendments to the Council Constitution**

- 3.1 This report outlines a suggested amendment to the Council Constitution. The amendment is within the following area of the Council Constitution:
- a) Part 3 “Responsibility for Functions” - “Policy Development Committees (PDCs)”.

## **4. Part 3 “Responsibility for Functions” - “Policy Development Committees (PDCs)”.**

- 4.1 Council at its meeting on 25 July 2019, agreed the Terms of reference for the “Equalities & Future Generations Policy Development Committee”. At the first meeting of the Committee on 27 August 2019, the Committee agreed to ask Council to amend its terms of reference so as to also include “Climate Change”.
- 4.2 It is therefore proposed that the sixth Term of Reference be amended to read as follows (the words in bold and italics being added):
- “vi) To develop Council Corporate Priorities in relation to Equalities & Future Generations, ***including Climate Change.***”

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

## **8. Equality and Engagement Implications**

- 8.1 There are no equality & engagement implications associated with this report.

**Background Papers:** None

**Appendices:** None.