
Decision Maker: COUNCIL

Date: Monday 24 April 2023

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: CONSTITUTION WORKING GROUP

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

Ward: All

1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 At its meeting on 30th March 2023 the General Purposes and Licensing Committee received a report setting out proposals from the Constitution Working Group (attached). Other than the proposal (at 2(a)) to limit the membership of Development Control Committee and Plans Sub-Committees to no more than two Members from the same ward, the recommendations were approved for referral to Council. The recommended changes cover the rules for questions, motions and call-in, an update of the Council's Petition Scheme, and the addition of a special meeting to be devoted to the annual setting of the budget/Council Tax. Since the Committee's meeting, the Chairman of the Working Group has proposed that the limits to the scope of questions which apply to the public should also apply to Members, so this has been added to the proposed changes. The detailed wording of the recommended changes is set out in the attached appendix, which has been updated following the General Purposes and Licensing Committee meeting.
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2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Council is recommended to -

- (1) Approve the following changes to the Constitution - in line with section 3 of the attached report and the wording set out in the appendix (to take effect for the 2023/24 Council year):**
- (a) Amendments to the rules for questions (as in paragraphs 3.6 to 3.8 of the report.)**
 - (b) Amendments to the rules for motions (as in paragraphs 3.9 to 3.11 of the report.)**
 - (c) Amendments to the rules for call-in (as in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.14 of the report.)**
 - (d) Amendments to the Petition Scheme (as in paragraph 3.15 of the report.)**
 - (e) The additional of a special full Council budget and Council tax meeting (as proposed in paragraphs 3.17 and 3.18 of the report.)**

(2) Note that Officers will report to a future meeting on proposals for the overall structure of the Constitution, including using gender-neutral language as proposed in paragraph 3.16 of the report.)

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable

Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:
(5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost
2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Services
4. Total current budget for this head: £376,460
5. Source of funding: Revenue Budget

Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): Not Applicable
2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement: Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000
2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Full Council decisions are not subject to call-in

Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable

Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable

Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable

Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: Not Applicable

Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): Not Applicable

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

Non-Applicable Headings:	Impact on vulnerable adults and children/Policy/Finance/Personnel/Legal/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/Local Economy/Health and Wellbeing
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report.