

East Herts Council

Date of Meeting: 29th April 2021

Report by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Report title: Confirmation of Minor Amendments to the Constitution

Ward(s) affected: All

Summary

- This report details the minor amendments which have been incorporated into the Constitution in the last year.

RECOMMENDATIONS that:

- (a) Council receives this report, as required by the Constitution, outlining the minor amendments to the Constitution made by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services acting in consultation with the Chief Executive.**
- (b) Council agree a delegation to the Head of Planning and Building Control to “determine any footpath and bridleways matters including their protection, creation, diversion, modification and extinguishment”.**

1.0 Proposal(s)

- 1.1 Under Part 2M Chapter 13.2 (c) of the Council’s Constitution, the Monitoring Officer (that is, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services), in consultation with the Chief Executive, has delegated authority to make minor amendments to the Constitution arising from changes to legislation, changes to staffing structures, job descriptions or changes in terminology.
- 1.2 The Constitution requires that such changes be reported annually to Council. This report fulfils this requirement.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Over the course of the last civic year, several minor amendments to the Constitution were identified as being necessary and were implemented under the Monitoring Officer's delegation to do so, acting in consultation with the Chief Executive. These are mostly minor typographical corrections and changes in terminology. A full list of the changes can be found at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 It was agreed by the HR Committee on 16th February 2021 that the Officer Code of Conduct at Part 5B of the Constitution be replaced with a new Code of Conduct for Employees. This is contained at Appendix 2.
- 2.3 A comprehensive review of the Constitution is currently underway and any amendments will be brought back to a future meeting of the Council.

3.0 Reason(s)

- 3.1 To ensure the Constitution is up to date, correct and free of errors.

4.0 Options

- 4.1 For Council to note the changes.

5.0 Risks

- 5.1 None.

6.0 Implications/Consultations

- 6.1 None.

Community Safety

No

Data Protection

No

Equalities

No

Environmental Sustainability

No

Financial

No

Health and Safety

No

Human Resources

Yes. The Code of Conduct for Employees has been updated to be fit for purpose. The HR Committee has considered and approved the new document.

Human Rights

No

Legal

No

Specific Wards

No

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

7.1 Appendix 1 – Changes to the Constitution

7.2 Appendix 2 – Code of Conduct for Employees

Contact Member

None

Contact Officer and Report Author

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As above