

# **East Herts Council Report**

**Date of meeting: 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

**Report by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services**

**Report title: Confirmation of Minor Amendments to the Constitution**

**Ward(s) affected: (All Wards);**

## **Summary**

- This report details minor amendments which have recently been incorporated into the Constitution.

## **RECOMMENDATION that:**

- (a) **Council receives this report, as required by the Constitution, outlining the minor amendments made to the Constitution by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services acting under paragraph 2.6.3 (b) of the Constitution.**

## **1.0 Proposal(s)**

- 1.1 Under Section 2, paragraph 2.6.3 of the Council's Constitution, the Monitoring Officer (that is, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) has delegated authority to make minor amendments to the Constitution in certain circumstances.

- 1.2 The Constitution requires that such changes must be notified to all Members at the next meeting of the Full Council.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 At its meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020, Council agreed that it should “adopt the [Hertfordshire] Growth Board Integrated Governance Framework into its own constitutional framework.”
- 2.2 Whilst the Council has been operating in line with the Integrated Governance Framework during this time, it had not been appended to the Council’s Constitution document.
- 2.3 This has now been rectified and implements the earlier decision of Council that it should be included.
- 2.4 Further, a slight amendment was made to the Growth Board Integrated Governance Framework at paragraph 4.2 of its Standing Orders.
- 2.5 The changes and reasons can be seen at Appendix A.

## **3.0 Reason(s)**

- 3.1 The earlier decision of Council specified that the Integrated Governance Framework should form part of the Council’s constitutional framework.
- 3.2 It was necessary to make changes to the Integrated Framework to remove ambiguity and to allow the consensus view of the Growth Board to be put into action.

## **4.0 Options**

- 4.1 For Council to note the changes and provide any observations to the Monitoring Officer.

## **5.0 Risks**

- 5.1 Not reporting the changes would be contrary to the requirements of the Constitution.

## **6.0 Implications/Consultations**

- 6.1 All members of the Hertfordshire Growth Board were consulted on the amendment to paragraph 4.2 of the Standing Orders and the exact amendment is being enacted across all partners members.

### **Community Safety**

No

### **Data Protection**

No

### **Equalities**

The Council is obliged to consider its obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty. Having considered that obligation, there appears to be no equality concerns associated with the issues raised in this report.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

No

### **Financial**

No

### **Health and Safety**

No

**Human Resources**

No

**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

**Contact Member**

None

**Contact Officer**

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**Report Author**

As above