

**Meeting of the Full Council**  
**Meeting to be held on Thursday, 13 December 2018**

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

**Part A**

Electoral Division affected:  
None;

**Report of the Political Governance Working Group**  
(Appendix 'A' refers)

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**Executive Summary**

The Full Council is invited to consider changes to the Constitution as proposed by the Political Governance Working Group.

**Recommendation**

The Full Council is asked to:

- (i) Approve the changes proposed by the Political Governance Working Group to the Constitution, as set out in the report.
- (ii) Authorise the Director of Corporate Services to make any consequential changes to other parts of the Constitution arising from these changes.

**Background and Advice**

At its meeting on 24 May 2018, Full Council agreed a number of changes to the county council's Constitution and Standing Orders, following recommendations made by the Political Governance Working Group.

Of the changes agreed by Full Council, two were agreed on a trial basis. These were:

1. Time limits on debates on Notices of Motion.
2. Requirement for reasons to be given for Call Ins, relating to the principles of decision making as set out in the Standing Orders.

The Political Governance Working Group met on 22 November 2018 to review the operation of these Standing Orders, and to consider whether to recommend to Full Council any further changes to meeting administration and the constitution.

The proposals agreed by the Working Group are set out in Appendix 'A'.

The Working Group also agreed to meet in the New Year to consider practice in other local authorities relating to public and member involvement in meetings, and review the implications of the anticipated new government guidance on Overview and Scrutiny.

### **Consultations**

N/A

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Risk management**

The county council is required to have a Constitution, setting out the various roles and functions of different parts of the council, and how decisions are made. Parts of the constitution are governed by statute, which require particular arrangements to be included, for example on meetings to be held in public, establishment of committees or who can make certain decisions. In most areas, within the statutory framework, the council has some freedom to make its own arrangements.

### **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A