

Appendix B – Constitution, list of main changes

Section	Main Changes
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the principles of the constitution • Includes the Armed Forces Covenant Duty • Sets out revised Decision Making principles
Public Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Section – Includes Community Rights and Speaking at Meetings • Complaints policy, Petitions Scheme and Webcasting Protocol removed from the constitution. In all cases, the policies still exist and will be published separately
Full Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Framework redesigned to match statute on what policies must be approved by Full Council • Includes "local choice" functions table
Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference – headings have been standardised • Addition of at least one independent member to Audit Risk and Governance Committee membership, in accordance with government and CIPFA guidance • Protocol on Good Practice in Development Control (including public speaking rules) removed from the constitution, but remains in place and will be published separately. The Development Control Terms of Reference are clear that the protocol must be followed.
Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of reference reviewed: Clarify that only significant policies / schemes / strategies etc need to go to Cabinet • Similarly, clarify that only where "significant" objections have been received to, eg TRO schemes, will it be a matter for Cabinet
Overview and Scrutiny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the size of committee membership to 10 (14 for the Children and Families Committee) • Amendments to reflect changes in legislation which remove the formal right of referral to the Secretary of State on issues of substantial variation in the Health Service
Joint Arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New section listing formal joint committees and arrangements
Councillors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New section on procedure for handling complaints against councillors, including a "Public Interest Test" to apply when evaluating complaints

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Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extended section on Statutory officers, (Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer, Chief Finance Officer) describing roles & powers• Full list of Proper Officers included• Fully revised Scheme of Delegation setting out more detail on roles and responsibilities of officers at Director and above
Standing Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New section on Budget Full Council procedure rules• Introduces a new "Public Question Time" process at Full Council meetings• Clarification added on what questions can and can't be accepted Councillor's Question Time• Some changes to NoM wording and simplification of language on speaking rules• Finance & Procurement Rules – under review