



**Council**

**Thursday, 7 March 2024**

**Amendments to the Constitution**

## **Report of the Monitoring Officer**

**Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Strategic and Borough-wide Leadership,  
Councillor N Clarke**

### **1. Purpose of report**

This report summarises proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution to reflect recommendations from the Planning Committee Working Group, officers and Governance Scrutiny Group.

### **2. Recommendation**

It is RECOMMENDED that Council adopts the proposed revisions to the Constitution.

### **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

The Council has a duty to keep its Constitution up to date and is required to review it at least once annually.

### **4. Supporting Information**

4.1. The suggested amendments include those proposed by a Working Group, which was tasked with considering various amendments to Planning Committee arrangements. This Group comprised the Chair and Vice-Chair of Planning Committee, the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing and two members from the Governance Scrutiny Group. These amendments are set out at Appendix 1.

4.2. The recommendations of the Working Group were reviewed and noted by Governance Scrutiny Group at its meeting on 23 November 2023. An additional proposed amendment to the timings around submission of motions was also considered and noted. The detail of this amendment is set out at Appendix 2.

### **5. Alternative options considered and reasons for rejection**

The Council is required to undertake an annual review of the Constitution and ensure that it complies with the law. Failure to undertake a review of the Constitution risks a legal challenge of decisions taken.

## **6. Implications**

### **6.1. Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications arising from these proposals.

### **6.2. Legal Implications**

Under section 9P of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council has a duty to keep its Constitution up to date, the section also prescribes its minimum content. The proposals in this report comply with those requirements.

### **6.3. Equalities Implications**

There are no implications as this alteration to the Constitution does not involve new or changing policies, services or functions, or financial decisions that will have an effect on services.

### **6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications**

There are no direct Section 17 implications arising from this report.

### **6.5. Biodiversity Net Gain Implications**

There are no specific biodiversity net gain implications arising from this report.

## **7. Link to Corporate Priorities**

The Environment	The proposed revisions should make it easier for members of the public, Councillors and officers to access and use materials which are essential to effective and efficient democratic decision-making.
Quality of Life	
Efficient Services	
Sustainable Growth	

## **8. Recommendation**

It is RECOMMENDED that Council adopts the proposed revisions to the Constitution.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Gemma Dennis Monitoring Officer 0115 914 8584 <a href="mailto:gdennis@rushcliffe.gov.uk">gdennis@rushcliffe.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background papers available for Inspection:</b>	None
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Appendix 1: Amendments to the Constitution – Planning Committee  Appendix 2: Additional amendments to the Constitution