

ARTICLE 15 - REVIEW AND REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

Duty to monitor and review the Constitution

- 1 The Monitoring Officer will monitor and review the operation of the Constitution to ensure that the aims and principles of the Constitution are given full effect.

Protocol for monitoring and review of Constitution by Monitoring Officer

- 2 A key role for the Monitoring Officer is to be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of the Constitution adopted by the Council, and to make recommendations for ways in which it could be amended in order better to achieve the purposes set out in Article 1. In undertaking this task the Monitoring Officer may:

observe meetings of different parts of the Member and officer structure;

undertake an audit trail of a sample of decisions;

record and analyse issues raised with him/her by Members, officers, the public and other relevant stakeholders; and

compare practices in this authority with those in other comparable authorities, or national examples of best practice.

Approval

- 3 Changes to the Constitution will only be approved by the Council after consideration of the proposal by the Monitoring Officer.

Housekeeping changes

- 4 The Monitoring Officer is authorised to make housekeeping changes to the Constitution where it is not practical to wait until the next meeting of Council to seek authorisation for changes. All changes to the Constitution will be reported to a subsequent Council meeting and there will be an annual review of the Constitution reported to Council.