

Council Meeting on Thursday 16 May 2024

Changes to Constitution Requiring Approval from County Council

Purpose

- a. For members of the County Council to adopt the changes in the Constitution as referenced below.

Report Summary:

1. The Staffordshire County Council Constitution sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. Some of these processes are required by the law, while others are a matter for the Council to choose. The Constitution is divided into Sections which explain how the Council makes its decisions by outlining how the different parts of the Council work and the basic rules governing the Council's business.
2. It is essential for good governance that local authorities regularly review their Constitution. Over the past several months, work has been ongoing to revise Terms of Reference for Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Section 7 of the Constitution.
3. The Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services will have the authority to make minor and consequential amendments to the constitution to keep it up to date with legislative requirements and/or to keep the whole constitution in line with Council decisions made from time to time.
4. Material and significant changes to the Constitution are required to be approved by Full Council.
5. The changes that require approval are identified in the table below.

Reference Section 7 – Overview and Scrutiny Committees

6. Terms of Reference of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Committee	Changes
Corporate	No Change
Health and Care	No Change

<p>Economy, Infrastructure and Communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previously referred to as the Prosperous Overview and Scrutiny Committee • Now titled the Economy, Infrastructure and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee • Education and SEND removed • Retained post 16 training and community learning • Statutory co-optees for Education removed
<p>Safeguarding and Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previously referred to as Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee • Now titled Safeguarding and Education Overview and Scrutiny Committee • Education and SEND added • Statutory co-optees for Education added • Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) report to this Committee

Legal Implications

7. The changes proposed in this report shall ensure that Staffordshire County Council operates a system of good governance, accountability, and transparency as required by the Localism Act 2011, other legislation and more generally as required.

Resource and Value for Money Implications

8. The proposals in the report do not generate any additional resource implications for the Authority.

Climate Change Implications

9. There are no climate change implications arising as a result of this report.

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

Section 7 of constitution – Overview and Scrutiny - Terms of Reference of Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

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