

Subject:	Annual Review of the Constitution		Status:	For Publication	
Report to:	Annual Council		Date:	12 th May 2017	
Report of:	Monitoring Officer		Portfolio Holder:	Legal and Democratic Services	
Key Decision:	No - reserved for Council	Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>	
Equality Impact Assessment:		Required:	No	Attached:	No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment		Required:	No	Attached:	No
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1.	RECOMMENDATION(S)
1.1	That the Council adopts the Constitution for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To agree the Constitution for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.
- 2.2 The purpose of the Constitution is to:
- Enable the Council to provide clear leadership to the community in partnership with citizens, businesses and other organisations.
 - Support the active involvement of citizens in the process of local authority decision-making.
 - Help members represent their constituents more effectively.
 - Enable decisions to be taken efficiently, effectively and transparently, with due regard to probity and equity.
 - Create a powerful and effective means of holding decision makers to public account.
 - To ensure that no one will review or scrutinize a decision in which they were directly involved.
 - Ensure that those responsible for decision-making are clearly identifiable to local people and that they explain the reasons for decisions.
 - Provide a means of improving the delivery of services to the community.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following of the Council's corporate priorities:
- Responsive Value for Money Services:** This priority is about the Council working collaboratively, being a provider, procurer and a commissioner of services that are efficient and that meet the needs of local people.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 All the issues raised and the recommendation in this report involve risk considerations as set out below:
- Failure to maintain and follow an up-to-date Constitution risks legal proceedings being taken against the Council, and risks members of the community being dissatisfied with the action of the Council.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 5.1 The Council agreed amendments to the Constitution in March 2017 in relation to Notices of Motion; there have been no further changes made to the Constitution since.
- 5.2 A link to the amended version of the Constitution was circulated to all councillors and managers on 6th April, a copy of which can be found at the following link:
www.rossendale.gov.uk/constitution
- 5.3 Members are asked to agree the Constitution for the municipal year 2017/2018.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 6.1 Any financial implications arising will be contained within existing budgets.

7. MONITORING OFFICER

- 7.1 All legal implications are commented upon in the body of the report.

8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 8.1 There are no Human Resource implications arising from the report.
- 8.2 Consultation with statutory officers, legal officers, Committee and Member Services and elected members.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The Council is required by law to implement a Constitution and agree the contents on an annual basis.

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection
The Constitution of the Council	www.rossendale.gov.uk/constitution