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| Subject: | Annual Review of the Constitution | Status: | For Publication |
| Report to: | Annual Council | Date: | 17 th May 2019 |
| Report of: | Monitoring Officer | Portfolio Holder: | Corporate Services |
| Key Decision: | No - reserved for Council <input type="checkbox"/> | 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 |
| Contact Officer: | Carolyn Sharples | Telephone: | 01706 252422 |
| Email: | carolynsharples@rossendalebc.gov.uk | | |

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| 1. | RECOMMENDATION(S) |
| 1.1 | That the Council adopts the Constitution for the 2019/20 Municipal Year. |

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To agree the Constitution for the 2019/20 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 scrutinise 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:
- A connected and successful Rossendale that welcomes sustainable growth:** our priority is to ensure that we are well connected to our residents, key partners and stakeholders. We want to make the most of every pound we spend and we are always looking for new and innovative ways to make the resources we do have, work harder for us.

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 January 2019 in relation to the Audit and Accounts Committee Terms of Reference, and a link to the amended version of the Constitution was circulated to all councillors and managers in February 2019.

5.2 A copy of the Constitution 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 2019/2020.

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