



Borough of Telford and Wrekin

Governance Committee

Tuesday 8 January 2026

Constitution Update Report

Cabinet Member:	Cllr Zona Hannington - Cabinet Member: Finance, Governance & Customer Services	
Lead Director:	Anthea Lowe - Director: Policy & Governance	
Service Area:	Policy & Governance	
Report Author:	Richard Phillips – Service Delivery Manager: Registrars, Public Protection, Legal & Democracy	
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Wards Affected:	All Wards	
Key Decision:	Not Key Decision	
Forward Plan:	Not Applicable	
Report considered by:	Governance Committee – 8 January 2026	

1.0 Recommendations for decision/noting:

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1.1 Reviews and considers the revised and updated Constitution at Appendix A; and
- 1.2 Recommends that Full Council adopts the revised and updated Constitution.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on some changes to the Constitution following the review undertaken recently and seek approval to recommend adoption of the Constitution to Full Council.

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3.0 Background

- 3.1 Governance Committee has responsibility for considering proposed changes to the Constitution and, if appropriate, making a recommendation to Full Council to change the Constitution.
- 3.2 The Constitution governs the way in which the Council operates and who makes which decisions. There is a statutory requirement to maintain an up-to-date Constitution and the Monitoring Officer has the responsibility of maintaining it.
- 3.3 As a follow on from the significant review of the Constitution approved by Full Council in July 2025 a small number of changes are proposed.

4.0 Summary of main proposals

- 4.1 At Part 2 the tables at paragraphs 2 and 3 have been clarified to confirm that in accordance with legislative wording the Speaker is acting on behalf of the Mayor.
- 4.2 At Part 2, paragraphs 7.4 and 7.6 provide clarification which ensures consistency between questions and motions and includes wording which provides that where multiple questions are received in respect of substantially the same subject matter, for a particular meeting, only the first question received shall be taken forward.
- 4.3 At Part 2, paragraph 25, a time limit of 2 hours for Full Council meetings has been introduced. This is extendable by a further 30 minutes (as per Part 2 paragraph 9.1.18) by way of the moving of a motion to extend the meeting, and confirmed by a majority vote.
- 4.4 At Part 2, paragraph 29, explanatory wording has been added for clarification purposes.
- 4.5 In areas where text has changed these paragraphs have been highlighted in yellow.

5.0 Alternative Options

- 5.1 Governance Committee could decide not to recommend the changes to the Constitution to Full Council, but this might result in the Constitution not being legally compliant and the Council may be found to be in breach of its duties to maintain an up-to-date Constitution.

6.0 Key Risks

- 6.1 There are no key risks arising from this report.

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7.0 Council Priorities

7.1 This report supports all Council priorities as the Constitution has an impact on the delivery of all Council services.

8.0 Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9.0 Legal and HR Implications

9.1 The Local Government Act 2000 requires the Council to have a Constitution and maintain it. Governance Committee has oversight of the Constitution and is empowered to consider proposed changes to the Constitution and, if appropriate, make recommendations to Full Council to make changes to it.

9.2 There are no HR implications arising from this report.

10.0 Ward Implications

10.1 There are no direct ward implications arising from this report.

11.0 Health, Social and Economic Implications

11.1 There are no health, social or economic implications directly arising from this report.

12.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

12.1 There are no equality or diversity implications arising from this report.

13.0 Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environmental Implications

13.1 There are no direct climate change or environmental implications arising from this report.

14.0 Background Papers

1 Current Council Constitution – July 2025

15.0 Appendices

A Draft Constitution - January 2026

16.0 Report Sign Off

Signed off by	Date sent	Date signed off	Initials
Legal	17/12/2025	17/12/2025	EH