



## Borough of Telford and Wrekin

### Full Council

Thursday 22 January 2026

### Constitution Update Report

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<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Zona Hannington - Cabinet Member: Finance, Governance & Customer Services	
<b>Lead Director:</b>	Anthea Lowe - Director: Policy & Governance	
<b>Service Area:</b>	Policy & Governance	
<b>Report Author:</b>	Richard Phillips – Head of Registrars, Public Protection, Legal & Democracy	
<b>Officer Contact Details:</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 01952 383241	<b>Email:</b> richard.phillips@telford.gov.uk
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All Wards	
<b>Key Decision:</b>	Not Key Decision	
<b>Forward Plan:</b>	Not Applicable	
<b>Report considered by:</b>	Governance Committee – 14 January 2026	

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#### 1.0 Recommendations for decision/noting:

It is recommended that Full Council:

- 1.1 Approves the adoption of the revised and updated Constitution at Appendix A to take effect immediately.

#### 2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on proposed changes to the Constitution following the review undertaken last year and to seek approval for the adoption of the revised Constitution.

#### 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.

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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 footnotes added to confirm that, in accordance with legislative wording, the Speaker conducts the meeting on behalf of the Mayor.

4.2 Part 2, paragraph 7.4 now 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. Paragraph 7.6 provides clarification which ensures consistency between questions and motions.

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 without notice, to extend the meeting, if confirmed by a majority vote. Full details of the process following expiry of either the original 2 hours or extended 2 hours 30 minutes are provided in a new paragraph 25.

4.4 At Part 2, paragraph 29, explanatory wording has been added for clarification purposes to ensure that there is no ambiguity over whether or not the Proper Officer has received an item referred to in the Rules of Debate.

4.5 In areas where text has changed these paragraphs have been highlighted in yellow.

### **5.0 Alternative Options**

5.1 Full Council could decide not to adopt the revised Constitution 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.

## **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**

<b>Signed off by</b>	<b>Date sent</b>	<b>Date signed off</b>	<b>Initials</b>
Legal	16/01/2025	16/01/2025	EH