

Meeting date: 24 March 2021
Report to: Governance Committee



Subject/report title: **Updates to Constitutional Standing Orders**
Report from: Head of Legal & Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer
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Wards affected:

All Wards | Bickenhill | Blythe | Castle Bromwich | Chelmsley Wood |
 Dorridge/Hockley Heath | Elmdon | Kingshurst/Fordbridge | Knowle |
 Lyndon | Meriden | Olton | Shirley East | Shirley South |
 Shirley West | Silhill | Smith's Wood | St Alphege

Public/private report: Public

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To update the Council's Constitutional Standing Orders to reflect current practice.

2. Decision(s) recommended

2.1 That Standing Order 38 be updated to provide for the Appeals Panel to be comprised of 3 Members, and for the membership of the Remuneration Committee to reflect current practice.

3. Matters for Consideration

- 3.1 Standing Order 38 in the Council's Constitutional Procedure Rules provides for the appointment of Committees and Boards and sets out the membership of each body.
- 3.2 Under Standing Order 38, an Appeals Panel appointed by Governance Committee as and when there are appeals to be heard, should be comprised of 5 members of the Committee.
- 3.3 However, the practice of setting up Appeals Panels of 3 members has emerged over the years as a practical solution to the difficulties experienced in getting 5 members together for ad hoc meetings which are often held during the working day. It is considered that an Appeals Panel of 3 members works well and it is proposed that Standing Order 38 should be amended to stipulate that only 3 members are required.
- 3.4 Standing Order 38 also provides that the Remuneration Committee should be comprised of '7 Members of the Council and an independent Chairman.' However,

when the Council passed its original resolution to establish a Remuneration Committee it was agreed that there should be an independent non-voting member of the Committee who would be a co-opted local business leader. The independent member was not intended to be the Chairman of the Committee, and in practice the independent member has never been elected as Chairman of the Committee.

3.5 It is therefore proposed that Standing Order 38 be amended to correct this inaccuracy.

4. What options have been considered and what is the evidence telling us about them?

4.1 N/a

5. Reasons for recommending preferred option

5.1 N/a

6. Implications and Considerations

6.1 State how the proposals in this report contribute to the priorities in the [Council Plan](#):

Priority:	Contribution:
<p>Economy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revitalising our towns and local centres. 2. UK Central (UKC) and maximising the opportunities of HS2. 3. Increase the supply of housing, especially affordable and social housing. 	<p>Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>Environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Enhance Solihull's natural environment. 5. Improve Solihull's air quality. 6. Reduce Solihull's net carbon emissions. 	<p>Click here to enter text.</p>
<p>People and Communities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Take action to improve life chances in our most disadvantaged communities. 8. Enable communities to thrive. 9. Sustainable, quality, affordable provision for adults & children with complex needs. 	<p>Click here to enter text.</p>

6.2 Consultation and Scrutiny:

6.2.1 N/a

6.3 Financial implications:

6.3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

6.4 Legal implications:

6.4.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.5 Risk implications:

6.5.1 N/a

6.6 Equality implications:

6.6.1 N/a

7. List of appendices referred to

7.1 None

8. Background papers used to compile this report

8.1 Solihull MBC Constitutional Standing Orders last updated July 2016

9. List of other relevant documents

9.1 Full Council Meeting minute from July 2013