

Changes to the Constitution in response to the COVID 19 Pandemic

The following changes were agreed by Council on 21 April 2020 in order to put in place contingency arrangements designed to allow the Council to continue to function if staff are absent as a result of the Corona Virus pandemic.

1 Scheme of Delegation and Financial Regulations

The Chief Executive together with the Strategic Management Board have delegated authority to discharge any delegated authority, including those made in consultation with a Councillor, already set out in the Council's Scheme of Delegation, including those set out in the Council's Financial Regulations, effective from 21 April 2020. This, to include the power to make urgent decisions in consultation with the Leader of the Council or, in his absence, the Deputy Leader of the Council.

2 City Solicitor

The City Solicitor has delegated authority to amend the Constitution to give effect to any change in legislation brought by the Government in response to the Corona Virus pandemic in consultation with the Leader of the Council or, in his absence, the Deputy Leader. In the absence of the City Solicitor, and the Litigation Solicitor may also exercise this delegated authority.

3 Councillor absence

Any Councillor may be absent from Council meetings for a period over six months provided that such absence is as a result of either a requirement to self-isolate or sickness due to the corona virus.

4 Articles of the Constitution and Standing Orders

Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution and Standing Orders 47 and 48 are suspended for the next six months, effective from 21 April 2020, to allow for the Council's Constitution to be amended by a simple majority of Council.

5 Standing Order 1

Standing Order 1(1) is amended to allow all meetings of the Council (including the AGM) and its committees to be held at any venue considered suitable by the Director Corporate Services in consultation with the Leader of the Council.