

Constitutional Working Group Update:

1.	<p>A review of the Audit and Governance Committee's Terms of Reference: To include reference to counter fraud and corruption, value for money, ethics and standards and, financial management:</p> <p>Included in the Council Constitution and in line with the CIPHA model set of responsibilities for Audit Committees.</p>
2.	<p>To limit the Constitutional Working Group to group members only, or to widen to include members with no group affiliation:</p> <p>The Terms of Reference for Audit and Governance Committee are to establish a working party comprising three elected Members drawn from different political parties from the Audit &amp; Governance Committee together with the Chief Executive and the Monitoring Officer to keep the Constitution under review to ensure that the constitution is fit for purpose and to meet as required and report any proposed changes to Audit &amp; Governance Committee as (with a view to an appropriate report being made by the Audit &amp; Governance Committee to the Council on any changes proposed).</p> <p>Consulting with Cllr Leyland.</p>
3.	<p>Order of items on Full Council agendas (this was a request made at the pre-council meeting on 16th July:</p> <p>We amended the agenda order for the December meeting and will continue to do so when required to assist with the smooth running of the meeting.</p>
4.	<p>Any further harmonisation with the Partnership Councils Constitutions:</p> <p>Work is ongoing to align parts with a draft date of May 2025. (This may be subject to local government reorganisation).</p>
5.	<p>Any other legal changes:</p> <p>Government consulted on remote meetings until 19 December 2024. Consultation link shared with Councillors. New consultation on introducing strengthened sanctions for local authority code of conduct breaches in England until 26 February 2025 shared with Councillors.</p>
6.	<p>Six Month Attendance Rule. Currently includes Council, Executive Board, Committees and appointments made by these bodies. Cross cutting with Item 5 as this has the potential to allow remote attendance in the future. See item 5.</p>