

REPORT FOR: ANNUAL COUNCIL

Date of Meeting:	19 May 2015
Subject:	Constitutional Changes
Responsible Officer:	Hugh Peart Director of Legal and Governance Services
Exempt:	No
Wards affected:	None
Enclosures:	Appendix 1 – Proposed changes to the Constitution

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out proposals to amend the Committee Procedure Rules and the Code of Conduct for Councillors in the Council's constitution in respect of the involvement of members in the scrutiny of Cabinet decisions.

Recommendations:

That Council consider and decide whether to approve the proposed changes to the constitution.

Section 2 – Report

Background

Changes to the Committee Procedure Rules are proposed to:

- a) Prevent members who have signed a call-in notice from sitting on the relevant Call-In Sub-Committee or from making decisions about whether a Call-In notice should proceed to a Call-In Sub-Committee; and
- b) Clarify the provision whereby Portfolio Holder Assistants cannot scrutinise matters within their remit.

It is also proposed to make a parallel change to the Code of Conduct for Councillors in respect of (b) above.

The proposed amendments are set out in Appendix 1.

Financial Implications

No additional financial resources are required.

Risk Management Implications

Risk included on Directorate risk register? No

Separate risk register in place? No

Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

The changes contribute to robust governance arrangements.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Steve Tingle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 11.5.15		
Name: Caroline Eccles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 11.5.15		

Ward Councillors notified:	NO
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Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Caroline Eccles, Senior Lawyer – Employment and Governance, tel: 0208 424 7580

Background Papers: None.

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	NO
2.	Priorities	YES