

Item No. 6.3	Classification: Open	Date: 24 March 2021	Meeting Name: Council Assembly
Report title:		Constitutional Changes 2021: Disorderly conduct and Local Pensions Board	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Constitutional Steering Panel	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That council assembly agree the proposed changes to the constitution as outlined in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report.

Disorderly conduct at council meetings

2. That committee procedure rules (CPRs) in the council's constitution be updated to include a description of conduct that may be considered disorderly in line with the provisions within paragraph 1.7 of council assembly procedure rules (CAPRs).

Local Pensions Board update

3. That the Local Pensions Board (LPB) membership numbers in the council's constitution be updated to reflect those contained in the LPB terms of reference.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4. This report outlines two constitutional changes. The constitutional steering panel has considered the suggested changes to the constitution and recommends them to council assembly.

Reasons for proposing an update to committee procedure rules

5. Southwark, like all councils, wants to ensure that the arrangements supporting the effective conduct of its meetings are efficient, effective and transparent.
6. Council assembly procedure rules (CAPRs) govern the conduct and procedures for council assembly meetings and committee procedure rules (CPRs) govern the conduct and procedures for all other meetings of the council.
7. Currently, the description of conduct that could be considered disorderly is not included in committee procedure rules (CPRs). This description is however included in council assembly procedure rules at paragraph 1.7.

The recommendation is that for consistency and rather than being implied, this section be included in the CPRs.

Reasons for proposing an update to Local Pensions Board (Part 3N of the constitution)

8. The Local Pensions Board (LPB) is an officer level board, with no councillor membership.
9. Currently the constitution part 3N states that the LPB consists of five members, consisting of two employer representatives and two employee representatives and an independent chair.
10. In order to increase representation of the interests of stakeholders in the pension fund, it is recommended that the board will have three employer and three employee representatives, with one member appointed as a vice chair. This increases the board to seven members including the chair. The proposed change to the constitution reflects this.
11. An addition has also been made giving information on accessing the local pension board's terms of reference, which is published on the council website.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

12. The context for this report is the continued review of efficient democracy.

Community impact statement

13. The proposal in this report provides additional benefits to the public and the local community and enhance the council's commitment to diversity and fairness.

Resource implications

14. The constitution is published on the council's website and is available for viewing online. Limited numbers of the constitution are produced in binder form with loose-leaf pages and dividers. This means that any additional costs arising from the reproduction of small sections of the constitution are reduced compared to the reprinting of the whole constitution. It is anticipated that the cost can be contained within existing budgets.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Southwark Constitution	160 Tooley Street London SE1 5LX	Constitutional Team 020 7525 7228

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Table setting out the provisions of CAPRs and CPRs in the constitution with regards disorderly conduct.
Appendix 2	Part 3N of the constitution – amendments to the Local Pension Board

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services	
Report Author	Chidilim Agada, Head of Constitutional Services Virginia Wynn-Jones, Principal Constitutional Officer Caroline Watson, Divisional Accountant	
Version	Final	
Dated	25 February 2021	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments sought	Comments included
Director of Law and Governance	Yes	Yes (Included in the body of the report)
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	Not applicable
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		25 February 2021