

<b>CONSTITUTION AND ETHICS COMMITTEE</b>	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
<b>28 JANUARY 2019</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Full Council 12 December 2018	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor David Seaton, Cabinet Member for Resources	
Contact Officer(s):	Fiona McMillan, Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager	Tel. 452460

**MOTIONS TEMPLATE SUBMITTED TO FULL COUNCIL 12 DECEMBER 2018**

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<b>FROM:</b> Full Council 12 December 2018	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
<p>The Constitution and Ethics Committee are invited to consider and make any recommendations back to Full Council regarding the motion from Councillor Farooq agreed at Full Council on 12 December 2018 to look at the template for submitting motions to Council.</p>	

**1. ORIGIN OF REPORT**

1.1 This report is submitted to the Constitution and Ethics Committee following a referral from Full Council on 12 December 2018.

**2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT**

2.1 The purpose of this report is for the Constitution and Ethics Committee to note the recommendation from Full Council on 12 December 2018 and to make any alterations or suggestions to the wording and report these back to Full Council.

2.2 This report is for the Constitution and Ethics Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 2.7.2.1

*Authority to oversee the operation of the Council's Constitution and authority to make recommendations to Full Council as to amendments and improvements to the Council's Constitution (including the codes and protocols) subject to the receipt and consideration of a report prepared by the Monitoring Officer, with the exception of those matters under the remit of the Executive.*

**3. TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	<b>N/A</b>
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#### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 Councillor Farooq submitted a motion to Full Council on 12 December regarding the relevance of motions to local residents and whether the motion is within the remit of the Council and the cost implications associated with this.

4.2 The full motion agreed for referral to the Constitution and Ethics Committee states:

“I have now had the privilege of sitting on full council meetings and observing the proceedings including questions and motions. I have seen Members passionately debating issues faced by their ward residents and the issues faced by the Peterborough city overall, backed by the professional work of our officers. May I congratulate members and the officers for providing an excellent service to the residents of Peterborough.

On occasions, I have found some of the motions coming to the council, generic, beyond the remit of the council, not achievable and at worse, not relevant to local residents, local issues, or stakeholders.

The discussions on these proposals become lengthy and lose the emphasis on the core points. These motions take valuable time away from the real issues faced by our residents.

I propose that the Constitution and Ethics Committee consider at its next available meeting the introduction of the following criteria for future motions presented to council and make a recommendation back to Council on its findings:

Relevance: Does the motion benefit the residents of specific ward and/or all the residents of Peterborough

Within the remit of the council: Can the council provide the service/product the motion asks for, or is it something for Parliament.

Cost of the proposal and source of funding: How much will it cost to deliver the proposed service/product?

The ultimate test should always be, does it benefit the majority of the residents and does it provide value for money

	Fill in details
Relevance	
Within remit of council	
Cost of the proposal and source of funding	

Such a process will have considerable advantages not least, the ability to introduce real policies and probe and discuss current policies, adding considerable value to the work of the council. Overall, making a real difference to the lives of our residents in Peterborough.”

4.3 Should this proposal be recommended back to Full Council for adoption the Standing Orders and Constitution of the Council would need to be updated accordingly.

#### 5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Consultation has already taken place with all Councillors following debate at Full Council on 12 December 2018.

5.2 The Constitution and Ethics Committee as the Committee with overall responsibility for changes to the Constitution are being asked to investigate the proposal and make any further recommendations to the next meeting of Full Council.

## **6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

6.1 It is anticipated that the Constitution and Ethics Committee will investigate the proposal of including the new format for submitting motions and make recommendations to Full Council.

## **7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 The motion states that the new proposal will benefit the majority of residents and provide value for money.

## **8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

8.1 To maintain the status quo and keep the current format for submitting motions to Full Council.

## **9. IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial Implications**

9.1 There are no financial implications to this report.

### **Legal Implications**

9.2 This will affect the constitution and standing orders which will need to be amended should the Committee agree to the proposals.

### **Equalities Implications**

9.3 There are none.

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 Peterborough City Council Standing Orders

## **11. APPENDICES**

11.1 None.

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