

Report for: Standards Committee, 14 September 2026

Title: Reform of Planning Committees – constitutional changes

Report authorised by: Rob Krzyszowski, Director of Built Environment & Highways

Lead Officer: Catherine Smyth, Head of Development Management & Planning Enforcement

Ward(s) affected: N/A

**Report for Key/
Non-Key Decision:** N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

A report on the Government's introduction of a national scheme of delegation prescribing which planning and related applications should be determined by an officer or committee in the legislation made on 15th July 2026 (and taking effect on 31st October 2026), The Town and Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority functions) (England) Regulations 2026 (the 'Regulations'), and the changes to the Council's Constitution required to implement those delegations.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

To consider and agree the proposed changes to the Constitution set out in this report, to implement the national delegations in the Regulations, and to recommend adoption of these changes to Full Council on 12th October 2026.

4. Reasons for decision

To implement new legislation and ensure the council, as local planning authority, makes decisions in accordance with the new legislation.

5. Alternative options considered

The option of not amending the Constitution was considered but not pursued as the Council will be under an obligation to comply with the requirements in the Regulations on 31 October 2026.

6. Reform of Planning Committees

Report to follow

7. Appendices

Appendix A – Main Report (to follow)

Appendix B - Constitution and Planning Protocol Proposed Changes (to follow)

Appendix C – Clean version of amended Constitution (proposed) (to follow)

