

ARTICLE 16 – SUSPENSION, INTERPRETATION AND PUBLICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

16.1 Suspension of the Constitution

(a) Limit to suspension.

- (i) The articles of this Constitution may not be suspended save to the extent they relate to matters reserved to Full Council and then only by a resolution of Full Council.
- (ii) The rules (and any of their appendices) specified in this Article below may be suspended by Full Council subject as may be provided for within those rules and the law.

(b) Procedure to suspend.

A motion to suspend any rules must be supported by a majority of Members present at the meeting of Full Council where the suspension is being considered. The extent and duration of suspension will be proportionate to the result to be achieved, taking account of the purposes of the Constitution set out in Article 1.

(c) Rules capable of suspension. The following rules may be suspended in accordance with this Article:

- (i) Council and Committee Procedure Rules;
- (ii) Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules;
- (iii) Executive Procedure Rules;
- (ii) Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules; and
- (iii) Financial Regulations including the Contract Procedure Rules.

16.2 Interpretation

The ruling of the Chair of Council as to the construction or application of this Constitution or as to any proceedings of Full Council shall not be challenged at any meeting of Full Council. Such interpretation will have regard to the purpose of this Constitution contained in Article 1.

16.3 Publication

- (a) The Monitoring Officer shall arrange for an accessible copy of this Constitution including information as to how to access any updated versions of the Constitution to be available to each Member upon delivery to him/her of that individual's declaration of acceptance of office on the Member first being elected to the Council.
- (b) To the extent that it is not available on-line or the law otherwise requires, the Proper Officer will ensure that a full copy of the Constitution is available for inspection at the main Council Office and can be purchased by members of the local press and the public on payment of a reasonable fee.

- (c) To the extent that a full version is not available on-line or the law otherwise requires, the Proper Officer will ensure that a summary of the Constitution is made widely available within the area and is updated as necessary.