

Article 16 – Suspension, Interpretation and Publication of the Constitution

16.1 Suspension of the Constitution

- (a) **Limit to suspension.** The Articles of this Constitution may not be suspended. The Rules specified below may be suspended to the extent permitted within by and in accordance with those Rules and the law.
- (b) **Procedure to suspend.** Where the Rules can be suspended only by the full Council, a motion to suspend any Rules will not be moved without notice unless at least one half of the whole number of councillors are present. 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 Article 16.1:
 - (i) Council Procedure Rules
 - (ii) Access to Information Procedure Rules
 - (iii) Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules
 - (iv) Executive Procedure Rules
 - (v) Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules
 - (vi) Committee Procedure Rules
 - (vii) Standards Committee Procedure Rules
 - (viii) Financial Procedure Rules
 - (ix) Contracts Procedure Rules
 - (x) Officer Employment Procedure Rules

16.2 Interpretation

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

16.3 Publication

- (a) The Head of Democratic and Partnership Services will give a printed copy of this Constitution to each member of the authority upon delivery to him/her of that individual's declaration of acceptance of office on the member first being elected to the Council.
- (b) The Head of Democratic and Partnership Services will ensure that copies are available for inspection at council offices, libraries and other appropriate

locations, and can be purchased by members of the local press and the public on payment of a reasonable fee.

- (c) The Head of Democratic and Partnership Services will ensure that the summary of the Constitution is made widely available within the area and is updated as necessary.