

Council Constitution, Part 2 - Articles of the Constitution (Article 16 - Suspension, Interpretation and Publication of the Constitution)

Article 16 - Suspension, Interpretation and Publication of the Constitution

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 by the Council Meeting to the extent permitted within those Rules and the law.

b) **Procedure to Suspend**

A motion to suspend any rules will not be moved without notice unless at least one half of the whole number of Councillors is 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 Procedure Rules set out in part 4 specify which of these are not capable of suspension.

2 Interpretation

The ruling of the Presiding Member as to the construction of this Constitution or its application to any proceedings of the Council shall not be challenged. Such interpretation will have regard to the purposes of this Constitution contained in **Article 1** and any guidance or advice of the Monitoring Officer.

3 Publication

- a) The Chief Executive or the Proper Officer 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. Following the provision of the initial printed version and unless a Councillor requests in writing/email to the contrary, an electronic link will be provided for the remainder of the duration of their term of office. Hard copies will be placed in political group rooms;
- b) The Proper Officer 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 Proper Officer will ensure that the summary of the Constitution is made widely available within the area and is updated as necessary.