

Article 16 – Suspension, Interpretation and Publication of the Constitution

16.01 **Suspension of the Constitution**

(a) **Limit to suspension**

The Articles and Parts 3, 5 and 6 of this Constitution may not be suspended. The Rules of Procedure specified below (“the Rules”) may be suspended by the full Council to the extent permitted within the Rules and the law.

(b) **Procedure to suspend**

A motion to suspend any Rules will not be moved unless at least two thirds 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 16.01:

All the Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution may be suspended by the Council or (in relation to its own business) by the Cabinet or any Committee or Sub-Committee but only to the extent permitted by law and the extent and duration of any suspension must be proportionate to the result to be achieved.

16.02 **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.

16.03 **Publication**

- (a) The Head of Paid Service will give a printed copy of this Constitution to each Member of the Council 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 Paid Service 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 Paid Service will ensure that the summary of the Constitution is made widely available within the area and is updated as necessary.