

2. ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1 – THE CONSTITUTION

1.1 Powers of the Council

The Council will exercise all its powers and duties in accordance with the law and this Constitution.

1.2 The Constitution

The Constitution, and all its Parts, as listed on the contents pages, is the Constitution of the Council.

1.3 Purpose of the Constitution

The purpose of this Constitution is to provide a framework which will enable the Council to provide clear leadership to the local community and efficient, effective, transparent and accountable decision-making by:

- (i) supporting the active involvement of local people in the process of local authority decision-making;
- (ii) helping Councillors represent their constituents more effectively;
- (iii) enabling decisions to be taken efficiently and effectively;
- (iv) creating a powerful and effective means of holding decision-makers to public account;
- (v) ensuring that no one will review or scrutinise a decision in which they were directly involved;
- (vi) ensuring that those responsible for decision making are clearly identifiable to local people and that they explain the reasons for decisions;
- (vii) providing a means of improving the delivery of services to the community; and
- (viii) ensuring that the work of the Council promotes its vision and aims, which are as follows:-

Our Vision/Mission is:

‘Towards a prosperous Borough, with a high quality of life for all’

Aim One: People

- To have a safe, happy, healthy population with people who feel valued and included

Aim Two: Place

- To protect and improve our environment, now and for the future

Aim Three: Prosperity

- To develop a prosperous and innovative borough, with a highly skilled and aspirational workforce

Aim Four: Council

- To be an efficient and effective council which is financially sustainable for the future

1.4 Interpretation and Review of the Constitution

Where the Constitution permits the Council to choose between different courses of action, the Council will always choose that option which it thinks is closest to the purposes stated above.

The Council will monitor and evaluate the operation of the Constitution as set out in Article 14.