

Part 2 - Articles of the Constitution

Article 16: Suspension, Interpretation and Publication of the Constitution

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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 full Council and the Executive 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 Members of the Council or the Executive is present for meetings of the Council and Executive respectively. 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 Rules capable of suspension are:
 - Council Procedure Rules as defined by Rule 22
 - Contracts Procedure Rules as defined by Rule 2.3

2. **Interpretation**

The ruling of the Chairman of the Council 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. The same will apply to the ruling of the Chairman of the Executive insofar as meetings of the Executive are concerned. Such interpretation will have regard to the purposes of this Constitution contained in Article 1.

3. **Publication**

- (a) The Monitoring Officer will ensure that a printed copy of this Constitution is given 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 Monitoring Officer will ensure that copies are available for inspection at Council offices, libraries and other appropriate locations (eg the Council's website), and can be purchased by members of the local press and the public on payment of a reasonable fee.
- (c) The Monitoring Officer will ensure that the summary of the Constitution is made widely available within the area and is updated as necessary.