

## **ARTICLE 15 - SUSPENSION, INTERPRETATION AND PUBLICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION**

### **15.1 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, or the relevant Committee, 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 Council, or the relevant Committee, 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 paragraphs (a) and (b) above:

- (i) The Council Procedure Rules except those which are requirements of statutes or regulations.
- (ii) Financial Procedure Rules.
- (iii) Contract Procedure Rules.

### **15.2 Interpretation of the Constitution**

The ruling of the Mayor, or in his/her absence the Deputy 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.

### **15.3 Publication of the Constitution**

- (i) Once a Councillor has completed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office they will be given access to a copy of the Constitution.
- (ii) In accordance with Section 9(P) of the Local Government Act 2000, a copy of the Council's Constitution is available for inspection at the Council Offices and, in accordance with the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 (as set out in the Local Government (Transparency Requirements) (England) Regulations 2015), the Constitution is published on the authority's website.

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