

**ARTICLE 16 – SUSPENSION, INTERPRETATION AND PUBLICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION**

**16.01 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 Council to the extent permitted within those Rules and the law.

**(b) Procedure to suspend:**

A motion to suspend any rules can only be made without notice, if at least 36 Members of the Council are present and will not be carried unless 24 Members vote in favour of suspension. The extent and duration of suspension will be proportionate to the result to be achieved, taking account of the purposes of the Constitution as set out in Article 1.

**(c) Rules capable of suspension:**

- Council Procedure Rules
- Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules
- Financial Procedure Rules
- Procurement Procedure Rules

**16.02 Interpretation**

The ruling of the Chairman of the Council (or other person presiding) as to the interpretation 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 and the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

**16.03 Publication**

- (a) The Committee Services Manager will give a printed copy of the Members' Handbook, including various parts of this Constitution to each Member of the authority upon delivery of that individual's declaration of acceptance of office on the Member first being elected to the Council.
- (b) The Committee Services Manager will ensure that completed and updated copies are available for inspection at appropriate locations and on the Council's website, and can be purchased by members of the public or local press on payment of a reasonable fee.