

Article 15 – Suspension, Interpretation and Publication of the Constitution

15.01 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 the full Council 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 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 15.01:
 - Standing Order 48 - Suspension of standing orders by full Council
 - Standing Order 16(3) - Taking executive decisions which are outside the budget/policy framework when the matter is urgent
 - Contract Regulation C1.3 - Contracts exempted from complying with Contract Regulations

15.02 Interpretation

The ruling of the Lord 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.

15.03 Publication

- (a) The Council's constitution will be made available to all members of the authority by electronic means unless a request is received in writing by the Democratic Services Manager, for a hard copy of the constitution. On receipt of such a request, a copy will be given to the requesting member.
- (b) The Democratic Services Manager will ensure that the up to date version of the Constitution is available on the Council's website and can be purchased by members of the local press and the public on payment of a reasonable fee.