

Article 4 – The Full Council

The Council has responsibility for approving the Policy Framework and Budget and retains responsibility for regulatory functions and will have a role in holding the Cabinet to account.

4.01 Meanings

- (a) **Policy Framework.** The Policy Framework means the following Plans and Strategies:- Many of these are produced in partnership with other Local Authorities, statutory bodies and organisations.
- (i) **Statutory:**
- Annual Library Plan;
 - Best Value Performance Plan;
 - Children’s Services Plan;
 - Community Care Plan;
 - Community Strategy;
 - Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy;
 - Early Years Development Plan;
 - Education Development Plan;
 - Local Transport Plan;
 - Plans and Strategies which together comprise the Development Plan;
 - Youth Justice Plan.
- (ii) **Additional:**
- Council’s Corporate Plan;
 - Food Law Enforcement Service Plan;
 - The Plan and Strategy which comprise the Housing Investment Programme;
 - Adult Learning Plan;
 - Local Agenda 21 Strategy;
 - Waste Strategy.
- (iii) other Plans and Strategies which the Council may decide should be adopted by the Council meeting as a matter of local choice.
- (b) **Budget.** The budget includes the allocation of financial resources to different services and projects, proposed contingency funds, the Council Tax base, setting the Council Tax and decisions relating to the control of the Council’s borrowing requirement, the control of its capital expenditure and the setting of virement limits.
- (c) **Housing Land Transfer.** Housing Land Transfer means the approval or adoption of applications (whether in draft form or not) to the Secretary of State for approval of a programme of disposal of 500 or

more properties to a person under the Leasehold Reform, Housing and Urban Development Act 1993 or to dispose of land used for residential purposes where approval is required under sections 32 or 43 of the Housing Act 1985.

4.02 **Functions of the full Council**

The Modular Constitutions are constructed so that the main Articles should not need to be changed often, whereas the Rules and Protocols set out in the Appendices could require revision on a more regular basis.

Only the Council will exercise the following functions:

- (a) adopting and changing the Constitution;
- (b) approving, modifying or adopting the Policy Framework, the Budget and any application to the Secretary of State in respect of any Housing Land Transfer;
- (c) subject to the urgency procedure contained in the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4 of this Constitution, making decisions about any matter in the discharge of a Cabinet function which is covered by the Policy Framework or the Budget where the decision maker is minded to make it in a manner which would be contrary to the Policy Framework or contrary to/or not wholly in accordance with the Budget;
- (d) approving all projects over £250,000 for inclusion in the Capital Programme.
- (e) appointing the Leader and members of the Cabinet;
- (f) agreeing and/or amending the Terms of Reference for Committees, deciding on their composition and making appointments to them;
- (g) appointing representatives to outside bodies unless the appointment is a Cabinet function or has been delegated by the Council;
- (h) adopting an Allowances Scheme under Article 2.05;
- (i) changing the name of the Area, conferring the title of Honorary Alderman or Freedom of the Borough;
- (j) confirming the appointment of the Head of Paid Service; Policy Directors, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer;
- (k) making, amending, revoking, re-enacting or adopting Bylaws and promoting or opposing the making of local legislation or Personal Bills, subject to confirmation by appropriate Government Departments;

- (l) all local choice functions set out in Part 3 of this Constitution;
- (m) all other matters which, by law, must be reserved to Council;
- (n) appointing the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and the Sheriff.

4.03 **Council Meetings**

There are three types of Council meeting:

- (a) the Annual meeting;
- (b) ordinary meetings;
- (c) extraordinary meetings;

and they will be conducted in accordance with the Council Procedure Rules in Part 4 of this Constitution.

4.04 **Responsibility for functions**

The Council will maintain the tables in Part 3 of this Constitution setting out the responsibilities for the Council's functions which are not the responsibility of the Cabinet.