

ARTICLE 15 - REVIEW AND REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

15.01 Duty to monitor and review the constitution

The Monitoring Officer will monitor and review the operation of the Constitution to ensure that the aims and principles of the Constitution are given full effect.

15.02 Protocol for reviewing the Constitution

A key role for the Monitoring Officer is to be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of the Constitution adopted by the Council, and to make recommendations for ways in which it could be amended in order better to achieve the purposes set out in Article 1. In undertaking this task the monitoring officer may:

- (i) observe meetings of different parts of the member and officer structure;
- (ii) undertake a review of a sample of decisions and supporting documentation;
- (iii) record and analyse issues raised with him/her by members, officers, the public and other relevant stakeholders; and
- (iv) compare practices in this authority with those in other comparable authorities or national examples of best practice.

15.03 Changes to the Constitution

- (a) **Minor and consequential changes.** The Monitoring Officer may make factual, grammatical or presentational changes to the Constitution and any other changes needed to comply with legislation or statutory guidance.
- (b) **Approval.** Subject to (a) above, changes to the constitution, other than the allocation of Executive functions agreed by the Leader, will only be approved by the full Council after consideration of the proposal by the monitoring officer.
- (c) **Changes to the form of executive.** The Council must take reasonable steps to consult with local electors and other interested persons in the area when drawing up any proposals to change the form of the executive and hold a binding referendum where required to do so.