

ARTICLE 7 - THE CABINET

7.01 Role

The Cabinet will carry out all of the Council's functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the Council, whether by law or under this Constitution.

7.02 Form and composition

The Cabinet will consist of the Leader together with at least two, but not more than nine, councillors appointed to the Cabinet by the Council. The quorum of the Cabinet will be the smallest number of members required to form a majority of the members appointed by the Council. There will be no reserve members of the Cabinet.

7.03 Leader and Deputy Leader(s)

The Leader will be a councillor elected to the position of Leader by the Council. The Council may, if it considers it appropriate to do so, appoint up to two of the other Cabinet Members to the position of Deputy Leader. The Leader and Deputy Leader(s) where appointed will hold office until:

- (a) he/she resigns from the office; or
- (b) he/she is suspended from being a councillor under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although he/she may resume office at the end of the period of suspension); or
- (c) he/she is no longer a councillor; or
- (d) he/she is removed from office by resolution of the Council following a change in the political control of the Council or motion to remove the Leader as set out in Council Procedure Rule 15.5; or
- (e) the Annual Meeting of the Council next following his/her appointment.

7.04 Other Cabinet members

Other Cabinet members shall hold office until:

- (a) they resign from office; or
- (b) they are suspended from being councillors under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although they may resume office at the end of the period of suspension); or
- (c) they are no longer councillors; or
- (d) they are removed from office, either individually or collectively, by resolution of the Council following a change in the political control of the Council or a motion to remove them as set out in Council Procedure Rule 15.5; or
- (e) the Annual Meeting of the Council next following their appointment.

7.05 Proceedings of the Cabinet

Proceedings of the Cabinet shall take place in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules and relevant Council Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

7.06 Motion to remove the Leader or members of the Cabinet

If the Leader is removed from office as the result of a vote by the Council, the responsibilities of the Leader shall be carried out by the Deputy Leader(s) until such time as the appointment of a replacement or the reappointment of the member concerned by the Council. If a member of the Cabinet is removed from office as the result of a vote by the Council, the responsibilities of that member shall be carried out by the Cabinet collectively until such time as the appointment of a replacement or the reappointment of the member concerned by the Council. In the event of all members of the Cabinet being removed from office in this way, Executive functions shall in the interim be carried out by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Mayor.

7.07 Responsibility for functions

The Monitoring Officer will maintain a list in Part 3 of this Constitution setting out which committees of the Cabinet, officers or joint arrangements are responsible for the exercise of particular executive functions.

7.08 No delegation to individual members of the Cabinet

Individual members of the Cabinet (including the Leader and Deputy Leaders) shall not be responsible for the exercise of any executive functions. Executive functions may be exercised only by the Cabinet, by a committee of the Cabinet, by officers, by any area committee or under joint arrangements.

(Note: In adopting this Constitution, the Council decided that no individual member of the Cabinet will be authorised to take an executive decision; such decisions will be taken either by the Cabinet collectively at a properly convened meeting of the Cabinet or by officers under the delegations made to officers.