

ARTICLE 4 – THE FULL COUNCIL

4.1 Meanings

(a) Policy Framework

The policy framework means the following plans and strategies:

- i. those required to be adopted by the full council by the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 and any regulations under section 32 of the Local Government Act 2000; and
- ii. any other plans and strategies which the council may decide from time to time to adopt as part of its policy framework.

A full list of the plans and strategies adopted by the council as part of the policy framework is set out in part 2 of this constitution.

- a. The budget includes the allocation of capital and revenue resources, the precept level, the council tax, the planned use of reserves, the county council's borrowing limit and the virement limits.
- b. Executive functions mean those functions which by law must be the responsibility of the executive.
- c. Non-executive functions mean those functions which by law must not be the responsibility of the executive.
- d. Local choice functions means those functions which the council may decide to exercise itself or delegate to any part of the council including the executive. A list of local choice functions is included in part 2 of this constitution.

4.2 Functions of the full Council

Only the full council will exercise the following functions:

- a. adopting and changing the constitution;
- b. approving or adopting the policy framework and the budget;
- c. subject to the urgency procedure contained in standing orders in part 3 of this constitution, making decisions which are contrary to the policy framework or decisions which are contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the budget;
- d. appointing the leader of the council;
- e. in relation to functions which are not the responsibility of the executive agreeing and/or amending the terms of reference for committees, deciding on their composition and making appointments to them;
- f. appointing representatives to outside bodies unless the appointment is an executive function or has been otherwise delegated by the council;

- g. adopting an allowances scheme under Article 2.5; (h) changing the name of the area;
- h. confirming the appointment of the head of paid service, the monitoring officer and chief finance officer;
- i. making, amending, revoking, re-enacting or adopting bylaws and promoting or opposing the making of local legislation or personal bills;
- j. all local choice functions set out in part 2 of this constitution which the council decides should be undertaken by itself rather than any other person or body or other matters reserved to full council by this constitution; and
- k. all other matters which, by law, must be reserved to the council.

The responsibilities of the full council may change from time to time and are set out in more detail in part 2 of this constitution.

4.3 Role and Function of the Chair

The chair will be elected by the council annually. The chair of the council, and in his/her absence the vice-chair, will have the following roles and functions:

1. to help to uphold and promote the purposes of the constitution, and to interpret the constitution where necessary;
2. to preside over meetings of the full council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of councillors and the interests of the community;
3. to ensure that the full council meeting is a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the local community and the place at which members who are not on the executive are able to hold the executive and committee chairs to account;
4. to help to promote public involvement in the council's activities; and
5. to attend such civic and ceremonial functions as the council and he/she determines appropriate.