

ARTICLE 4 - THE FULL COUNCIL

4.1 Meanings

(a) **Policy Framework** The policy framework comprises the following plans:-

- Community Plan (Sustainable Community Strategy)
- The Council Plan
- Community Safety Plan
- Local Development Framework
- Housing Strategy
- Licensing Policy
- Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Licensing Principles

And any other statutory plans, strategies or programmes which the Council may from time to time resolve to add to the above list.

(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 requirements, the control of its capital expenditure and the setting of virement limits.

4.2 Functions of the Full Council

Only the Council will exercise the following functions:

(a) Approving the strategic financing of the Council, upon recommendations from the Policy and Resources Committee where possible including:

- Determination of the Financial Strategy
- Approval of the Revenue Budget
- Approval of the Capital Programme
- Setting the Council Tax
- Determination of fees and charges where authority to set these has not been delegated
- Determination of borrowing limits

(b) Adopting and changing the Constitution except where otherwise provided in the Constitution or by resolution of the Council;

- (c) Approving and adopting the Policy Framework (see Article 4.01(a)) including such plans that the Council must formulate by statute (defined in the Local Authorities (Committee System) (England) Regulations 2012 and any subsequent regulations;
- (d) Approval of matters which require a decision that represents a significant departure from any existing strategy policy or budget previously agreed by the Council;
- (e) Receiving reports and recommendations from the Policy and Resources Committee, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any other Committee;
- (f) All policy matters and new proposals relating to significant partnerships with external agencies and Local Authority companies;
- (g) Agreeing and/or amending the terms of reference of Committees (with the exception of the Licensing Committee), deciding on their composition and making appointments to them;
- (h) Appointing representatives to outside bodies for a period up to the end of the Council term, unless the appointment has been delegated by the Council;
- (i) Delegating significant functions to other local authorities or their executives and deciding whether or not to accept such a delegation from another local authority;
- (j) Adopting an allowance scheme under Article 2.05;
- (k) Changing the name of the District;
- (l) The election of the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees without prejudice to the Council allowing the Committees to make such appointments;
- (m) Conferring the title of Honorary Alderman;
- (n) Confirming the appointment of the Head of Paid Service;

- (o) Approving, prior to an offer of employment, any salary package for any post that is in excess of £100k.
- (p) Determining any delegation to Officers which does not fall within the purview of any Committee;
- (q) Making, amending, revoking, re-enacting or adopting bylaws and promoting or opposing the making of local legislation or personal bills, and
- (r) All other matters which by law must be reserved to Council.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, it is confirmed that just as the Council retains ultimate responsibility for the actions of all its Committees, it also retains the ability to exercise all its powers whether or not such power is also delegated to a Committee or officer.

However, the Council will not exercise a power delegated under the Delegation Scheme without first certifying that such an exceptional step is required in the best interests of the Council.

The Council's ability to exercise its powers will not override or supersede any decision or action already taken by resolution of any Committee or officer acting under proper delegated authority.

4.3 Council Meetings

There are three types of Council meetings:

- (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.