

ARTICLE 4 - THE FULL COUNCIL

4.1 Functions of the Full Council

Only the Council will exercise the following functions:

- (a) adopting and changing the Constitution;
- (b) approving or amending the Policy and Budget Framework, the budget and any application to the Secretary of State in respect of any Housing Land Transfer;
- (c) deciding matters relating to the discharge of executive functions where a possible decision is considered contrary to the Policy and Budget Framework or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the budget (this does not apply in cases of urgency)
- (d) appointing a councillor to be the Leader of the Council (except where there is a directly elected Mayor in which case no Leader shall be appointed.)
- (e) agreeing and/or amending the terms of reference and powers and duties of committees of the Council, including overview and scrutiny panels, deciding on their composition, making appointments to them and determining the allocation of chairing arrangements and seats between political groups;
- (f) appointing representatives to outside bodies and Joint Arrangements (including Statutory and other Joint Committees) unless the appointment is an executive function or has been delegated by the Council;
- (g) adopting an allowances scheme for councillors, taking into account the recommendations of an Independent Panel;
- (h) conferring the title of Honorary Alderman/Freeman;
- (i) approving the appointment of the Head of Paid Service, Chief Financial Officer and Monitoring Officer (on a recommendation of the Employment Committee);
- (j) making, amending, revoking, re-enacting or adopting bylaws and promoting or opposing the making of local legislation or personal Bills;
- (k) undertaking all functions in relations to elections;
- (l) approving the annual accounts;
- (m) accepting or otherwise a delegation from another local authority or the Cabinet or another;
- (n) all local choice functions set out in Part 3 of this Constitution which the Council decides should be undertaken by itself rather than by the Cabinet;
- (o) undertaking all other matters which, by law, must be reserved to Council.

4.2 Meanings

The terms “Policy and Budget Framework” and “the Budget” are used throughout this Constitution. The meanings of these terms are set out below.

Policy and Budget Framework

The Policy and Budget Framework means the list of and content of plans and strategies agreed by the Council as being those that collectively form the Framework and which are determined by the Council. The current list of such plans and strategies is contained in the Policy and Budget Framework Procedure Rules.

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 budget transfer limits, as defined in the Budget Management Scheme.

Housing Land Transfer

This means 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.

4.3 Council Meetings

There are three types of Council meeting:

- (a) the annual meeting which must be held in March, April or May (dealing with prescribed business at the start of a new Council year – it may be combined with ordinary meeting business);
- (b) ordinary meetings (scheduled meetings to deal with the Council's business – additional ordinary meetings to those scheduled at the beginning of the Council Year may be called);
- (c) extraordinary meetings (called to deal with specific business only, outside of the normal schedule – may be called at shorter notice than ordinary meetings)

All Council meetings will be conducted in accordance with the [Council Procedure Rules](#) contained in Part 4A of this Constitution.