

## Article 11 - Decision Making

### 1. Responsibility for decision making

The Council will keep a record of the decisions taken and persons responsible for them available to the public. These details are set out in Part 3 of this Constitution.

### 2. Role of decision makers

All decision makers will:

- (a) realistically consider all alternatives and, where reasonably possible, consider the views of the public;
- (b) understand and keep to the legal requirements regulating their power to make decisions;
- (c) take account of all relevant matters, both general and specific, and ignore any irrelevant matters;
- (d) act for a proper purpose and in the interests of the public;
- (e) keep to the rules relating to local government finance;
- (f) follow procedures correctly and be fair;
- (g) make sure they are properly authorised to make the decisions;
- (h) be responsible for their decisions and be prepared to give the reasons for them; and
- (i) take appropriate professional advice from officers.

### 3. Key decisions

A 'key decision' is an Executive decision which is likely to:

- (a) result in the Council spending, or saving a significant amount compared with the Budget for the service or function the decision relates to; or
- (b) have a 'significant' effect on communities living or working in an area made up of two or more wards.

When assessing whether or not a decision is a key decision, Members must consider all the circumstances of the case. However, a decision which results in a significant amount spent or saved will not generally be considered to be a key decision if the amount spent or saved is less than £500,000. A key decision which is considered to have a 'significant' effect on communities should usually be of a strategic rather than operational nature and have an outcome which will have an effect upon a significant number of people living or working in the area and impact upon:

- the amenity of the community; or
- quality of service provided by the authority.

~~Any Executive decision relating to the Council's major policy framework will also be considered a 'key decision'~~

### 4. Decision making by the full Council

The Council will follow the Council's Procedures Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution when considering any decision.

**5. Decision making by the Executive**

The Executive will follow the Executive Procedures Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution when considering any decision.

**6. Decision making by the Scrutiny Committees ~~and Scrutiny Commissions~~**

Scrutiny Committees ~~and Commissions~~ will follow the Overview and Scrutiny Procedures Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution when considering any decision.

**7. Decision making by other Committees and Sub-Committees**

Committees and Sub-Committees will follow those parts of the Council procedure rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution as they apply to them.

**8. Human Rights**

All decisions taken by the Council will be in accordance with the requirements contained in the European Convention of Human Rights.