

PART 2, ARTICLE 15 - SUSPENSION, INTERPRETATION AND PUBLICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

1. Suspension of the constitution

1.1 Limit to suspension.

The rules specified below may be suspended by the full Council to the extent permitted within those rules and the law.

1.2 Procedure to suspend.

A motion to suspend any rules will not be moved without notice unless at least one half of the whole number of councillors are present. The extent and duration of suspension will be proportionate to the result to be achieved; taking account of the purposes of the constitution set out in **Part A2**.

1.3 Rules Capable of Suspension.

The following rules may be suspended in accordance with paragraph 1.1:-

- **Part B5** – Full Council Procedure Rules
- **Part C4** – Executive Procedure Rules
- **Part D2** – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules
- **Part E3** – Committee Procedure Rules
- **Part I2** – Code of Financial Governance
- **Part I3** – Code of Procurement Governance

2. Interpretation

2.1 The ruling of the Chairman of the Council as to the construction or application of the constitution or as to any proceedings of the Council shall not be challenged at any meeting of the Council. Such interpretation will have regard to the purposes of the constitution set out in **Part A2**. Before making a ruling, the chairman shall have regard to the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

3. Publication and Updating

3.1 The Monitoring Officer will ensure that the constitution is published on the Council's website – www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk - and is available to councillors, officers and the public.

3.2 The Monitoring Officer will give a printed copy of the constitution to each member of the authority upon delivery to him/her of that individual's declaration of acceptance of office on the member first being elected to the Council.

- 3.3 The Monitoring Officer will provide each member of the Council with any updates to the constitution on a quarterly basis and will arrange for the copy published on the website to be updated on the same frequency.
- 3.4 The Monitoring Officer will ensure that copies are available for inspection at council offices, libraries and other appropriate locations, and can be purchased by members of the local press and the public on payment of a reasonable fee.
- 3.5 The Monitoring Officer will ensure that the summary of the constitution is made widely available within the area of Central Bedfordshire and is updated as necessary.