

Decision Making

5.1 Responsibility for decision making

The Council will issue and keep up to date a detailed record of that part of the Council or individual has responsibility for particular types of decisions or decisions relating to particular areas or functions. This record is set out in this Constitution in particular in Chapters 2 (Council), 3 (The Executive), Chapter 5 (Committees) and Chapter 6 (Delegations to Officers).

5.2 Principles of decision making

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:

PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

- (a) proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- (b) due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- (c) respect for human rights;
- (d) a presumption in favour of openness; and
- (e) clarity of aims and desired outcomes.
- (f) reasons for executive decisions will be given.

5.3 Types of decision –

- (a) Decisions reserved to full Council.

Decisions relating to the functions listed in Chapter 2 will be made by the full Council and not delegated.

- (b) Key decisions.

(i) "Key decisions" are defined by law as follows:

A "key decision" means an executive decision which, is likely:

- (a) to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
 - (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.
- (ii) A decision taker may only make a key decision in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Procedure Rules set out in Chapter 3 of this Constitution.

5.4 Decision making by the full Council

The Council meeting will follow the Council Procedures Rules set out in Chapter 2 of this Constitution when considering any matter.

5.5 Decision making by the executive

The executive will follow the Executive Procedures Rules set out in Chapter 3 of this Constitution when considering any matter.

5.6 Decision making by Policy and Scrutiny committees

The Policy and Scrutiny committees will follow the Policy and Scrutiny Procedures Rules set out in this Constitution when considering any matter.

5.7 Decision making by other committees and sub-committees established by the Council

Other Council committees and sub-committees will follow those parts of the Council Procedures Rules set out in this Constitution as apply to them.