

ARTICLE 14 - FINANCE, CONTRACTS AND LEGAL MATTERS

14.01 Financial management

The management of the Council's financial affairs will be conducted in accordance with the financial rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

14.02 Contracts

Every contract made by the Council will comply with the Contracts Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

14.03 Legal Proceedings

Authority to institute, defend or participate in any legal proceedings in any case where such action is necessary to give effect to decisions of the Council is delegated to Officers in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, (Part 3)

Otherwise authority so to act is given to the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the relevant Chief Officer (as defined in Article 12.01 (b)) and a solicitor acting for the Council except that where the institution of legal proceedings (other than debt collection) is proposed in the High Court Authority to so act is only given by specific authority of the Executive

14.04 Authentication of documents

Where any document is necessary to any legal procedure or proceedings on behalf of the Council, it will be signed by the Monitoring Officer or Chief Executive or other person authorised by them, unless any enactment otherwise authorises or requires, or the Council has given requisite authority to some other person.

Any contract entered into on behalf of the local authority in the course of the discharge of an executive function shall be made in writing. Such contracts must either be signed by at least two officers of the authority or made under the common seal of the Council attested by at least one officer if they have a value exceeding fifty thousand pounds (£50,000).

14.05 Common Seal of the Council

The Common Seal of the Council will be kept in a safe place in the custody of the Monitoring Officer. A decision of the Council, or of any part of it, will be sufficient authority for sealing any document necessary to give effect to the decision. The Common Seal will be affixed to those documents which in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer should be sealed. The affixing of the Common Seal will be attested by the Monitoring Officer (or in their absence the Chief Executive) or some other person authorised by them.