

15. ARTICLE 15 – SUSPENSION, INTERPRETATION AND PUBLICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

15.1 Suspension of the Constitution

(a) Limit to suspension

The articles of this Constitution may not be suspended. The rules specified below may be suspended by the Council to the extent permitted within those rules and the law.

(b) 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 article 1.

(c) Rules capable of suspension

The following rules may be suspended in accordance with para 15.1 of Article 15:

- As set out in Council Rule 16.1 all of the Council rules may be suspended by agreement if at least one half of the whole number of Members of the meeting are present. Suspension can only be for the duration of the Council meeting.

15.2 Interpretation

The ruling of the Mayor as to the construction or application of this 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 this Constitution contained in article 1.

15.3 Publication

- (a) The Chief Executive shall provide access to a copy of this 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.
- (b) The Chief Executive shall ensure that a printed copy the Constitution is available for inspection at the Chatham Community Hub and is available on-line and for purchase by members of the local press and the public on payment of a reasonable fee.

