

## **SECTION 2 - PRINCIPLES OF DECISION-MAKING**

- 2.1 All decisions of the Council will be made and recorded in accordance with the terms of this Constitution.
- 2.2 Whichever body or individual is responsible for making a decision, the decision should be made, as far as possible, in accordance with the following principles:
- (a) there should be a presumption in favour of decision-making being open and transparent, with members of the public being afforded effective access to relevant information and the processes by which decisions are taken;
  - (b) due consultation should take place with those likely to be affected by a decision. So far as practicable, decision-making should be planned in advance and the public given due notification of forthcoming decisions;
  - (c) where a decision is likely to have wide-ranging or significant impact on the Community, additional time and emphasis should be given to consultation and members of the public actively encouraged to contribute their views
  - (d) decisions must be made with regard to all relevant considerations and ignoring all irrelevant matters;
  - (e) decisions should be made having regard to any approved policies or procedures of the Council;
  - (f) decisions should be made having regard to appropriate professional advice obtained from suitably-qualified Officers;
  - (g) the action required by a decision must be proportionate to the desired outcome; and
  - (h) decisions must be made in accordance with any relevant statutory requirements and with respect for human rights.
- 2.3 The management of the Council's financial affairs will be conducted in accordance with the Financial Procedure Rules set out in Section 9 of this Part 4 of the Constitution.
- 2.4 Every contract placed by the Council will comply with Contract Regulations as set out in Section 10 of this Part 4 of the Constitution.