

## Part 2 - Articles

### Article 1 - The Constitution

- 1.1 The Constitution of the Combined Authority comprises of Parts 1 - 6.
- 1.2 The Combined Authority will exercise all its functions (powers and duties) in accordance with the law and this Constitution. If the Constitution conflicts with the law, the law shall prevail.
- 1.3 The purpose of the Constitution is to:
- enable the Combined Authority to provide leadership to the community in partnership with councils, citizens, businesses and other organisations
  - support the involvement of citizens in the process of local decision-making,
  - enable decisions to be taken efficiently and effectively,
  - provide ways to hold decision-makers to public account,
  - ensure that no one reviews or scrutinises a decision in which they have been directly involved
  - clarify who takes decisions and ensure that decision-makers explain the reasons for decisions, and
  - help deliver the Combined Authority's vision of a more prosperous Hull and East Yorkshire.
- 1.4 Where the Constitution permits the Combined Authority to choose between different courses of action, the Combined Authority will choose the option which it considers closest to the purpose set out above.

#### Interpretation

- 1.5 The Monitoring Officer shall make any final decision regarding the application of the Constitution. In making any such decision, the Monitoring Officer shall consult with the Head of Paid Service and/or the s73 Chief Finance Officer as appropriate.

#### Reviewing and Approving the Constitution

- 1.6 The Monitoring Officer will annually review the Constitution to ensure that it is fit for purpose.

1.7 Any document in the Constitution will be approved as follows:

- by the **Combined Authority** (where arrangements are the Combined Authority's responsibility)
- by the **Mayor** (where arrangements are the Mayor's responsibility)
- by both the **Combined Authority and the Mayor** (where arrangements are the responsibility of both)

1.8 The S73 Chief Finance Officer has delegated authority under the Officer Delegation Scheme in Part 3 of the Constitution to amend the Combined Authority's Financial Regulations on behalf of the Combined Authority.

1.9 The Monitoring Officer is authorised to make the following changes to the Constitution:

- (a) minor variations
- (b) legal or technical amendments that do not materially affect the Constitution
- (c) required to be made to remove any inconsistency, ambiguity, or typographical error
- (d) required to be made so as to put into effect any decision of the Mayor or Committee, sub-Committee or officer exercising delegated powers; or
- (e) required to reflect any changes to job or role titles.

Any such amendments must be reported retrospectively to the Combined Authority for noting.

1.10 The Monitoring Officer also has delegated authority under the Officer Delegation Scheme in Part 3 of the Constitution to amend the Combined Authority's Contracts Standing Orders on behalf of the Combined Authority.

1.11 Any amendment to the Constitution must be recorded and published.

#### Access to the Constitution

1.12 The Monitoring Officer will make the Constitution available for inspection by the public:

- at the Offices of the Combined Authority at any reasonable hour, and
- on the Combined Authority's website.