

# **ARTICLE 14 - FINANCE, CONTRACTS AND LEGAL MATTERS**

## **14.1 Financial management**

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

## **14.2 Contracts**

Every contract made by the Council will comply with the Contract Standing Orders set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

## **14.3 Legal proceedings**

The Head of Legal & Democratic Services is authorised 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 or in any case where the Head of Legal & Democratic Services considers that such action is necessary to protect the Council's interests.

## **14.4 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 Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer, chief officer, Strategic Director or Head of Service or other person authorised by him/her, unless any enactment otherwise authorises or requires, or the Council has given requisite authority to some other person.

Any contract with a value exceeding £50,000 entered into on behalf of the Council in the course of the discharge of an executive function shall be made in writing and made under the common seal of the Council attested by at least one officer.

## **14.5 Common Seal of the Council**

The Common Seal of the Council will be kept in a safe place in the custody of the Head of Legal & Democratic Services. 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 attached to those documents which in the opinion of the Chief Executive should be sealed. The attaching of the Common Seal will be witnessed by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services or Chief Executive or some other person authorised by him/her or the Council.