Part 2 Articles of the Constitution



Article 12: Officers

12.1. Management structure

(a) The Council may engage such staff (referred to as officers) as it considers necessary to carry out its functions.

(b) The Council will engage persons for the following posts as outlined in Part 7 (Management Structure). All of these officers are shared appointments with West Devon Borough Council:

Post	Functions and areas of responsibility	, h
Chief Executive	Overall corporate management and operational	-
(and Head of Paid Service)	responsibility for the discharge of the Council's functions, the number and grade of officers required for the discharge	
	of functions and the organisation of officers,	
	Provision of professional advice to all Members in the decision making process.	
	Together with the Monitoring Officer, responsibility for a system of record keeping for all the Council's decisions.	·
	Representing the Council on partnership and external bodies (as required by statute or the Council).	/ /
Two Corporate Directors	To deputise for the Chief Executive in his/her absence,	1
Directord .	To offer support to Heads of Services and be their mentor and coach.	
	To lead with the Chief Executive on Strategic Planning.	
	To lead and manage across both Councils through corporate programmes and projects,	
	To champion organisational values and culture,	
	To lead on cross-cutting external partnerships.	
	To troublesheet on matters that need more attention than the Heads of Service have capacity to provide,	

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Seven Heads of			Formatted: Highlight
Service:			Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Highlight
Head of Assets	Property Services, Building Control, Engineering, Natural		Formatted: Highlight
	Environment & Recreation, Salcombe Harbour, Dartmouth	177	Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Highlight
Head of Planning,	Ferry Strategic Planning, Development Management, Land	- `\	Formatted: Highlight
Economy &	Charges, Community Delivery, Economic Development,		Formatted: Highlight
Community	Arts		
Head of	Housing, Environmental Health		Formatted: Highlight
Environmental			
Health & Housing			
Head of ICT &	Customer Services, Revenues & Benefits, Housing		Formatted: Highlight
Customer Services	Options, Facilities, ICT & Design, Corporate Improvement,		
	Post		
Head of Finance &	Finance, Audit		Formatted: Highlight
Audit			
Head of Corporate	Human Resources, Legal, Member Services, Electoral		Formatted: Highlight
Services	Services, Communications/Media, Print		
Head of	Recycling/Waste Collection, Street Scene, Grounds		Formatted: Highlight
Environment	Maintenance		
Services .			

(c) For the purposes of the functions described in Article 12.2–12.4 below and the Officer Employment Procedure Rules (in Part 4), the Council designates the following posts as shown:

Post	Designation	
Chief Executive	Head of Paid Service	
Head of Finance & Audit	Section 151 Officer	
Monitoring Officer	Monitoring Officer	
Corporate Directors	Non-Statutory Chief Officers	
Heads of Service	Deputy Chief Officers	

(d) The overall departmental structure of the Council, showing the management structure and deployment of officers, is <u>also</u> set out at Part 7 of this Constitution.

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12.2 Functions of the Head of Paid Service

- (a) **Discharge of functions by the Council:** The Head of Paid Service will report to Full Council on the manner in which the discharge of the Council's functions is co-ordinated, the number and grade of officers required for the discharge of functions and the organisation of officers.
- (b) **Restrictions on functions:** The Head of Paid Service may not be the Monitoring Officer but may hold the post of Section 151 Officer if a qualified accountant.

12.3 Functions of the Monitoring Officer

- (a) **Maintaining the Constitution:** The Monitoring Officer will maintain an up-to-date version of this Constitution and will ensure that it is widely available for consultation by Members, staff and the public.
- (b) Ensuring lawfulness and fairness of decision making: After consulting with the Head of Paid Service and Section 151 Officer, the Monitoring Officer will report to the Full Council or to the Executive in relation to an Executive function if he or she considers that any proposal, decision or omission would give rise to unlawfulness or if any decision or omission has given rise to maladministration.
 - Such a report will have the effect of stopping the proposal or decision being implemented until the report has been considered.
- (c) **Proper officer for access to information:** The Monitoring Officer will ensure that decisions, together with the reasons for those decisions and relevant officer reports and background papers are made publicly available as soon as possible.
- (d) **Contributing to Corporate Management:** The Monitoring Officer will contribute to the corporate management of the authority in particular by acting as the Solicitor to the Council and providing professional legal advice to the Council.
- (e) Supporting the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Panel in respect of Code of Conduct matters: The Monitoring Officer will contribute to the promotion and maintenance of high standards of conduct of Members of the Council and of town and parish councils in the District by providing support to the Panel when required, contributing to the training of Members and the provision of advice for them.

(f) Conducting investigations into alleged breaches of the Member Code of Conduct: The Monitoring Officer will arrange for the conduct of investigations into, and take other action upon, matters referred by the Monitoring Officer and/or Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Panel and make reports or recommendations in respect of them to the Panel.

- (g) Advising whether Executive decisions are within the budget and policy framework and the principles of decision making (set out in Article 13): The Monitoring Officer will advise whether decisions of the Executive are in accordance with the budget and policy framework.
- (h) **Providing advice:** The Monitoring Officer will provide advice on the scope of powers and authority to take decisions, maladministration, financial impropriety, probity, and budget and policy framework issues to all Members.
- (i) **Restrictions on posts:** The Monitoring Officer cannot be the Section 151 Officer or the Head of Paid Service.

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12.4 Functions of the Section 151 Officer

- (a) Ensuring lawfulness and financial prudence of decision-making: After consulting with the Head of Paid Service and the Monitoring Officer, the Section 151 Officer will report to the full Council or to the Executive in relation to an Executive function and the Council's external auditor if he or she considers that any proposal, decision or course of action will
 - involve incurring unlawful expenditure; or
 - · is unlawful; or
 - is likely to cause a loss or deficiency; or
 - · involve the Council entering an item of account unlawfully.
- (b) **Administration of financial affairs:** The Section 151 Officer will have responsibility for the administration of the financial affairs of the Council.
- (c) **Contributing to corporate management:** The Section 151 Officer will contribute to the corporate management of the Council, in particular through the provision of professional financial advice.
- (d) Providing advice: The Section 151 Officer will provide advice on the scope of powers and authority to take decisions, maladministration, financial impropriety, probity, and budget and policy framework issues to all Members and will support and advise Members and officers in their respective roles.
- (e) **Give financial information:** The Section 151 Officer will provide financial information to the media, members of the public and the community.

12.5 Duty to provide sufficient resources to the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer

The Council will provide the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer with such officers, accommodation and other resources as are in their opinion sufficient to allow their duties to be performed.

12.6 Conduct

Officers will comply with the Officers' Code of Conduct and the Protocol on Officer/Member Relations set out in Part 5 of this Constitution.

12.7 Employment

The recruitment, selection and dismissal of officers will comply with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.