
21 Article 9 – Finance, Contracts and Legal Matters

21.1 Financial Management

The management of the Council's financial affairs will be conducted in accordance with the financial rules set out in [Part 5I](#) of this Constitution.

21.2 Contracts

Every contract made by the Council will comply with the Contracts Procedure Rules set out in [Part 5G](#) of this Constitution.

21.3 Legal Proceedings

The Head of Legal 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 Services considers that such action is necessary to protect the Council's interests.

21.4 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 Head of Legal Services or other person authorised by them, unless any enactment otherwise authorises or requires, or the Council has given requisite authority to some other person.

Any contract with a value exceeding £10,000 entered into on behalf of the local authority in the course of the discharge of an Executive function shall be made in writing. In accordance with the Council's Contracts Procedure Rules set out in this Constitution such contracts must be signed in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules. Any Contract with a value exceeding £100,000 shall be under the common seal of the Council.

21.5 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 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 affixing of the Common Seal will be attested by either the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer, Chief Finance Officer, **Director of Place**, ~~the~~ Head of Legal Services, ~~or the~~ Chair of the Council **or Vice-Chair of the Council**.