

Article 12 – Decision-making

12.1 Responsibility for decision-making

Ards and North Down Borough Council shall issue and keep up to date a record of what part of the Council or individual has responsibility for particular types of decisions or decisions relating to particular areas or functions. This is contained in Annex 4.

12.2 Principles of decision-making

All decisions of the Council shall be made in accordance with the following principles:

Principles of decision making as contained in Section 8 of the Northern Ireland Code of Conduct for Councillors; Code of Conduct for Officers and Protocol on Member/Officer Relations – all contained in Part 4.

12.3 Decisions to be taken by a qualified majority

The decisions of a Council that must be taken by a qualified majority, i.e. by 80 per cent. of the votes of the members present and voting, are set out in the Council Standing Orders in Part 3 of this constitution.

12.4 Types of decision

As Ards and North Down Borough Council operates a committee governance system this is not applicable.

12.5 Decision-making by the Council

Meetings of Ards and North Down Borough Council will follow the Council's Standing Orders set out in Part 3 of this constitution when considering any matter.

12.6 Decision-making under executive arrangements

As Ards and North Down Borough Council operates a committee governance system this is not applicable.

12.7 Decision-making by overview and scrutiny committees

As Ards and North Down Borough Council operates a committee governance system this is not applicable.

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12.8 Decision-making by other committees and sub-committees established by the Council

Council committees and sub-committees will follow those parts of the Council standing orders set out in Part 3 of this constitution as apply to them.

12.9 Reconsideration of decisions

Decisions of the Council or a committee of the Council will be subject to reconsideration if 15 per cent of the members of the Council present to the clerk of the Council a requisition on either or both of the grounds specified in section 41(1) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014. These are:

- that the decision was not arrived at after a proper consideration of the relevant facts and issues;
- that the decision would disproportionately affect adversely any section of the inhabitants of the district.

The procedures to be followed in relation to a requisition for the reconsideration of a decision are set out in the Council standing orders in Part 3 of this constitution.