



**BOROUGH COUNCIL OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME
COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

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Introduction and Overview

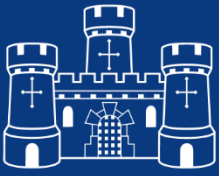


Defined Terms

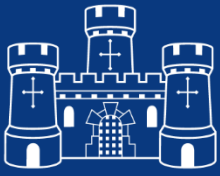
Throughout this constitution, we need to use some terms that have particular meanings. When we do this, the meaning of the term is set out the first time it is used.

The following table sets out the meanings of the terms that we use most often in this constitution. Section A1 will also assist readers in understanding the context of what follows in the rest of this constitution.

“Budget and Policy Framework” or “Framework”	Is a term we use to describe the core policies and budgets set by Council. These set out what the borough’s priorities are and how Council will use its resources to deliver those priorities.
“Council” or “Full Council”	Is shorthand for “a meeting of full council”, referring to all 44 Members operating collectively, at a meeting, to debate matters or take decisions.
“the Council”/ ”the Authority”	Are terms we use interchangeably to refer to the organisation that is Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council as a whole (as opposed to just the 44 Members operating collectively in decision-making mode).



“Cabinet”	The Cabinet is a small group of Members responsible for ensuring that the budget and policy Framework is implemented.
“Key Decision”	Is a term we use to describe certain types of significant decisions. The precise definition is set out in Section C3.
“Leader”	Is a term we use to refer to the Leader of the Council who is a Member elected by Council to exercise special responsibilities and to chair the Cabinet.
“Member/s”	Is shorthand for “elected Member/s of the council”. It is often used instead of or interchangeably with the word “councillor/s”.
“Officers”	Is a term we use to describe the people who work for or with the authority of the council to deliver council services. There are certain “Statutory” or “Proper” officers who have certain responsibilities (and titles) set out by law. More information is contained in Section E.



“Chief Officers”

“Chief Officers” means the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive or any of the Service Directors. More information is contained in Section E.