

Meeting of the Council – 1st December, 2014

Report of the Chief Executive

Leader of the Council

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the position of the Leader of the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Constitution.

Background

2. On 17th May, 2012, Councillor D Sparks was elected as Leader of the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Constitution. Councillor D Sparks has notified me that he has resigned as the Leader of the Labour Group and that he will resign as Leader of the Council with effect from this meeting. Accordingly, it is necessary to submit a report to this meeting concerning the election of the Leader of the Council.
3. The Council's Procedure Rules require that the Leader of the Council shall be appointed at the annual meeting of the Council (as and when necessary). Further, Article 7 of the Council's Constitution prescribes that the Leader will hold office for a period of four years or until:
 - (a) his/her term of office as a Councillor expires; or
 - (b) he/she resigns from the office; or
 - (c) he/she is no longer a Councillor; or
 - (d) he/she is removed from office by resolution of the Council.
4. The Council is requested to consider the election of the Leader in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
5. Under Part 3 of the Constitution (Responsibility for Functions), the Leader has delegated powers to appoint the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Members.

Finance

6. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Law

- 7. The relevant statutory provisions regarding the Constitution are contained in Part II of the Local Government Act 2000, as amended, together with Regulations, Orders and Statutory Guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- 8. Article 7 of the Council's Constitution prescribes that the Cabinet will consist of the Leader together with at least 2, but not more than 9 other Councillors appointed to the Cabinet by the Leader. Under Article 7, it is the responsibility of the Leader to maintain the list of responsibilities and executive functions allocated to Cabinet Members.

Equality Impact

- 9. This report has no direct implications for the Council's policies with regard to equality and diversity. Decisions of the Leader on policy issues and the implementation of the Council Plan framework will involve actions to promote equality and in relation to children and young people.

Recommendation

- 10. That the Council consider the election of the Leader in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

John Poyellus

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Chief Executive