

Appointment of the Deputy Mayor 2023-24

For Full Council on 5 April 2023

Summary

Lead Member(s): All Group Leaders

Lead Director: Lee Colyer – Director of Finance, Policy and Development

Report Author: Renee Dillon – Democratic and Executive Support Manager

Classification: Public document (non-exempt)

Wards Affected: All

| Approval Timetable | Date |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Full Council | 5 April 2023 |

Recommendations

Recommendation as supported by the Group Leaders:

- That Councillor Nicholas Pope be appointed Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2023/24.

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 This report sets out a recommendation in respect of the appointment of a Deputy Mayor for 2023/24.
- 1.2 The Council is required each year to appoint a Deputy Mayor for the following municipal year.
- 1.3 The Deputy Mayor must be able to deputise for the Mayor and, as necessary, fulfil the following responsibilities as set out in the Constitution:

Extract from Article 5 of the Constitution –

- to uphold and promote the purposes of the Constitution, and to interpret the Constitution when necessary.
 - to preside over meetings of Full Council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of councillors and the interests of the community.
 - to ensure that Full Council meeting is a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the local community and the place at which members who are not on the Cabinet are able to hold the Cabinet to account.
 - to promote public involvement in the Council's activities.
 - to be the conscience of the Council.
 - to attend or be represented at such civic and ceremonial functions as the Council and he determines appropriate.
 - to determine any matter referred to him under the urgency provisions of the Access to Information Procedure Rules or the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution; and
 - to be consulted on any matter to which consultation with the Mayor of the Council is required under this Constitution.
- 1.5 It is customary that the Deputy Mayor subsequently serve as Mayor in the following year.

2. Options Considered

- 2.1 Section 5 of the Local Government Act 1972 specifies:
 - The Council shall appoint a member of the Council as the Vice Chairman of the Council (in the case of a borough this is the Deputy Mayor).
 - Members of the executive of the council (i.e., Cabinet Member) may not be appointed as the Deputy Mayor.

- The Deputy Mayor shall hold office immediately after the election of the Mayor at the next Annual Meeting.

3. Options

- 3.1 Councillor Nicholas Pope has been nominated by the Leaders of the political groups of the Council.
- 3.2 Other nominations may be moved at the meeting. Prior notification to Democratic Services of the intention to move a nomination would be appreciated.

4. Consultation on Options

- 4.1 As the nominee must be a member of the Council who serves at the discretion of the Council it is not usual for the process to include public or formal consultation.

5. Implementation

- 5.1 The decision will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 5.2 Following this decision, the Deputy Mayor-Elect will formally take up the position of Deputy Mayor during the Annual Meeting of the Council on 24 May 2023.

6. Appendices and Background Documents

Appendices:

- None

Exempt appendices (if any):

- None

Background Papers:

- None

7. Cross Cutting Issues

A. Legal (including the Human Rights Act)

The requirement to appoint a Deputy Mayor from amongst the membership of the Council is set out under Section 5 of the Local Government Act 1972, and within the Council's Constitution.

Claudette Valmond – Head of Legal Partnership

B. Other Implications (Staffing, Risk Management, Environment and Sustainability, Community Safety, Equalities, Data Protection, Health and Safety, Health and Wellbeing.)

There are no specific cross-cutting implications as a direct result of the options in this report.

Renee Dillon – Democratic Services and Executive Support Manager, 10 March 2023