

THE CONSTITUTION - SECTION 6

The Leader

6.1 Election

6.1.1 The Leader will be elected by Full Council.

6.1.2 The Leader will usually be elected on an annual basis at the Annual Council meeting. However, where the post of Leader becomes vacant between Council elections the Leader will be elected at the next meeting of the Full Council.

6.2 Term of Office

The Leader is appointed on an annual basis at the annual meeting of the Council.

6.3 Resignation, Dismissal, Disqualification and Suspension

6.3.1 The Leader may resign the position of Leader by writing to the Mayor.

6.3.2 The Leader can be dismissed where the Council passes a resolution removing him/her from office in accordance with the Rules below.

6.3.3 The Leader shall cease to be Leader if he/she is suspended or disqualified as a Councillor, or, for other such reasons, cannot fulfil the role of Leader.

6.3.4 The Leader will cease to be Leader upon death or upon suffering any disability which will, or is likely to, prevent them from undertaking the role of Leader for a period of three months or more.

6.4 Deputy Leader

6.4.1 Appointment

The Leader shall designate one of the Members of the Executive Board as Deputy Leader.

6.4.2 Duties of the Deputy Leader

The Deputy Leader may exercise all the functions of the Leader where the position is vacant or where the Leader is absent or is otherwise unable to act.

6.4.3 Removal from Office

The Leader may, if he/she thinks fit, remove the Deputy Leader from office at any time.

6.5 Functions and Delegated Authority

6.5.1 Membership of the Executive Board

Members of the Executive Board, in addition to the Leader, shall be elected annually at Council subject only to there being a minimum of two, and a maximum of nine.

6.5.2 Role of the Leader

The Leader will chair meetings of the Executive Board and determine the portfolios of Members of the Executive.

6.5.3 The Executive Scheme of Delegations

The Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Leader, will prepare and submit for approval an Executive Scheme of Delegations setting out the delegations of Executive Functions, including where the principle has been approved as part of the Council's Executive arrangements, the delegated authority of each member of the Executive and thereafter keep this under review and submit updates to the Scheme, as appropriate. In addition, the Leader has powers under section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000 to discharge personally or to arrange for discharge under other delegated powers, any Executive Functions not covered by the Scheme for the time being.

No Member of the Executive may have a Deputy, other than the Leader. This means that no Member of the Executive can have responsibilities which mean that they will work to, or under, another Member of the Executive, except the Leader.

6.5.4 Meetings of the Executive Board

Subject to the requirement to publish notice of each meeting three clear days before it takes place, and other conditions contained in Sections 5 and 14 the Leader can call meetings of the Executive Board at such times and places as he/she chooses.

6.5.5 Chairing Executive Board Meetings

The Leader shall chair Executive Board meetings. In the Leader's absence the Deputy Leader will chair. If the Deputy Leader is not available the Executive Board will appoint a Member of the Executive Board to Chair the meeting on their behalf by informing the Chief Officer Governance & Customer of the person chosen (subject to quorum).

6.5.6 Appointments of Representatives on Outside Bodies

The Leader has authority to appoint representatives of the Council on outside bodies where those outside bodies relate to Executive Functions of the Council.

w6.5.7 Attendance at Royal Garden Parties

The Leader has authority to approve, in consultation with declared Group Leaders, the attendance of Councillors and/or Officers at Royal Garden Parties.