

COUNCIL - MONDAY, 22 MAY 2023

Report of the Chief Executive

APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Purpose of Report

To appoint a Leader of the Council for the Council term 2023/24 to 2026/27.

Recommendations

That Councillor Miah be appointed as Leader of the Council for the Council term 2023/24 to 2026/27.

Reasons

To make an appointment to the position of Leader of the Council, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 and section 9.1 of the Council's Constitution.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

The Local Government Act 2000 and the Council's Constitution require the Council to appoint a Leader of the Council at the start of each Council term. The appointment is normally for the whole of the Council term but the Constitution sets the circumstances in which the appointment may end.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions

Under the Leader and Cabinet model, Council appoints the Leader, who then chairs and appoints members to the Cabinet (a total of 10 members of Cabinet being the legal maximum, 3 being the minimum) and allocates Cabinet responsibilities. The Leader must appoint a Deputy Leader.

It is convention for the Leader of the Council to be the leader of the political group on the Council which holds a majority. However, following the Borough elections on 4th May 2023 no political group has overall control of the Council. The Chief Executive understands that an agreement has been reached between the Labour Group and Green Group to support a minority Labour administration, and that the Leader of the Labour group, Councillor Miah, will therefore be nominated for the position of Leader of the Council.

The Leader may amend the size and composition of the Cabinet and the scheme of delegation relating to Executive functions at any time. To do so, the Leader must give written notice to the Chief Executive and to the person or body concerned. The notice must set out the extent of the amendment to the size and composition of the Cabinet and the scheme of delegation. The Chief Executive will present a report to the next ordinary meeting of the Council setting out the changes made by the Leader.

Report Implications

Financial Implications

The special responsibility allowances associated with Cabinet appointments will be funded from the existing councillors' allowances budget.

Risk Management

There are no specific risks associated with this decision

Equality and Diversity

None identified.

Climate Change and Carbon Impact

None identified.

Crime and Disorder

None identified.

Wards Affected

All wards.

Publicity Arrangements

Not applicable.

Consultations

Not applicable.

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Caring for the Environment	Yes
Healthy Communities	Yes
A Thriving Economy	Yes
Your Council	Yes

Key Decision:

No

Background Papers:

None

Officer(s) to contact:

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