

REPORT TO: Cabinet
Council

DATE: 3 March 2011

SUBJECT: Selection of the Deputy Chair for 2011/12

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Assistant Chief Executive

CONTACT OFFICERS: Andrea Grant
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EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To consider the selection of a Deputy Chair for the Municipal Year 2011/12.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Under the present political management framework the nomination of the Deputy Chair is a matter for the Cabinet to decide, with a recommendation to the full Council.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- (1) The Cabinet is invited to consider the nomination of Deputy Chair for 2011/12 and to select the Member to be nominated to that Office at the Annual Council Meeting on 12 May 2011; and
- (2) Council be recommended that the Constitution be amended at Article 5 to reflect the amended role of Deputy Chair for 2011/12 and to delete the payment of a Deputy Mayor's allowance.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Annual Council Meeting on 12 May 2011

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

There are no alternative options.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Not appropriate

Financial: None arising from this report

Legal: None arising from this report

Risk Assessment: Not appropriate

Asset Management: None arising from this report

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The Chief Executive, the Mayoral Working Party and the political group leaders have been consulted.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Environmental Sustainability		√	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People		√	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

None

BACKGROUND:

1.1 At the last meeting of the Cabinet, a report on the nomination of a Deputy Mayor for 2011/12 was considered and it was resolved as follows:

That:

(1) it be noted that Councillor P. Cummins stands nominated as Mayor Elect for 2011/12; and

(2) the Conservative Group nomination for the post of Deputy Mayor for 2011/12 be referred to the Mayoral Working Group for consideration and subsequently submitted to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

1.2. The Mayoral Working Party considered this matter at its meeting on 17th February 2011 and the political group leaders considered the comments made.

1.3 It should be noted that Section 5(1) and 5(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 make it a requirement that the Council appoints a Deputy Mayor, however the only statutory role for this position is to Chair the Council meeting in the absence of the Mayor.

1.4 Following consultation with the political group leaders, it is proposed that a Deputy Chair be appointed for 2011/12, as opposed to a Deputy Mayor. The difference between the two roles is that the Deputy Chair would only fulfil the statutory function set out in paragraph 1.3 above.

1.5 The existing selection criteria would not apply as this is not an appointment to the position of Deputy Mayor. No engagements would be attended by the Deputy Chair and this practice would contribute towards the savings required by the Council in terms of Civic and Mayoral Services.

1.6 There is reference to the position of Deputy Mayor in Article 5 of the Constitution and it is recommended that the Council be requested to amend any reference to the Deputy Mayor to reflect the arrangements set out above. This would include the deletion of a Deputy Mayor's allowance for 2011/12 in view of the limited role anticipated for the position.