

1.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. The Meeting to Elect the Leader

The Leader shall be elected by Full Council at the first Meeting of Council following an ordinary election of Full Council ("the Meeting to Elect the Leader") and confirmed at the Annual Meeting of Council.

- 1.1 Each elected member of Council has the right to be nominated for the position of Leader of Council.
- 1.2 All nomination papers must be submitted to the Chief Executive a minimum of five clear days prior to the Meeting to Elect the Leader.
- 1.3 For a nomination paper to be valid it must be supported by the signatures of five elected members of Council excluding the nominee.
- 1.4 Each elected member may however, sign a nomination paper supporting only one candidate
- 1.5 A nominee may submit a statement of no more than 1000 words with the nomination papers.
- 1.6 At the Meeting to Elect the Leader each nominee shall have the opportunity to speak for up to ten minutes in support of their nomination.
- 1.7 After all nominees have had the opportunity to speak, elected members may ask questions of any or all of the nominees.
- 1.8 Each elected member will be provided with one voting slip. The voting slip will include the names of all nominees and also an option to "Re-open Nominations".
- 1.9 Each elected member may indicate against a nominee, a number signifying their order of preference for the candidate.
- 1.10 Each elected member is entitled to support as few or as many candidates as he chooses. Once a member has ascribed a number indicating his order of preference for each of the nominees he is prepared to support, he may apply his next and final number to the option to "Re-open nominations". Where a member chooses to ascribe a preference to "Re-open Nominations" no further preferences may be ascribed. "Re-open Nominations" will always be the last number that the member ascribes a preference to.
- 1.11 Where on any count no nominee has in excess of 50% of the votes cast, the name of the nominee with the least number of first preference votes will be disregarded and a further count undertaken in which the votes for that nominee will be reallocated to the remaining nominees, or where the option "Re-open nominations" is selected as the next order of preference, to "Re-open nominations".
- 1.12 Counts will continue until in excess of 50% of votes have been allocated to one candidate or in the alternative 50% or more votes have been allocated to "Re-open nominations".
- 1.13 Where on a count in excess of 50% of votes are found to have been cast in favour of a nominee that nominee shall be declared Leader of Council.

1.14 However, if on any count the votes allocated to “Re-open Nominations” exceed 50%, then a new election shall be called to be held at the next meeting of Full Council.