

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

COUNCIL

Date of meeting: 24 February 2009
Report of: Borough Solicitor
Title: Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor 2009/10

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To agree the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elect.

2.0 Decision Required

- 2.1 Council is requested to:-

Resolve that Councillor M Simon be designated as the Mayor Elect and that Councillor G Baxendale be designated as the Deputy Mayor Elect, with a view to their formal election as Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Cheshire East for 2009/2010 at the Mayor Making ceremony to be held on 1 April 2009; subject to the grant of royal charter.

3.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs

- 3.1 None.

4.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond

- 4.1 None.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 A Mayor cannot be appointed until Borough status has been granted by royal charter.

6.0 Risk Assessment

- 6.1 In order for preparations to be made for the Mayor Making ceremony on 1 April 2009, to ensure appropriate support is afforded to the incoming Mayoral team, and to facilitate the smooth operation of the Mayoral office in advance of the Mayor Making ceremony, it is felt prudent for a decision to be made at this Council meeting to select the Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elect.

7.0 Background and Options

- 7.1 As Cheshire East Council is a newly formed local authority, at the present time there is no agreed protocol for the selection of Mayor and Deputy Mayor and other Mayoral matters.
- 7.2 For this first municipal year, it is therefore proposed by the Leader of the Council, following consultation with the Group Leaders, that Councillor M Simon be elected as the Mayor for 2009/2010 and that Councillor G Baxendale be elected as Deputy Mayor. For the period between now and the first day of April, they would then be referred to as the Mayor Elect and Deputy Mayor Elect respectively.
- 7.3 Council may also wish in due course to consider the Mayoral Election process for future years. One option would be to consider the use of a Mayoral Panel, elected by full Council, which could consider nominations and could make recommendations to the Council on matters relating to the Mayoralty. Such a process would allow for important matters relating to the Mayoralty to be fully considered with cross party member input.

8.0 Overview of Day One, Year One and Term One Issues

- 8.1 For day one it is important that a Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected for Cheshire East.
- 8.2 A year one and term one issue will be for Council to agree a protocol for the future selection of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and to determine other issues affecting the Mayoralty.

9.0 Reasons for Recommendation

- 9.1 The reasons for the recommendations are to ensure that appropriate arrangements can be made for the Mayor Making ceremony on 1 April 2009 and to agree a process to ensure that matters affecting the Mayoralty can be agreed in a timely manner with appropriate Member input.

For further information:

*Portfolio Holder: Councillor R W J Fitzgerald
Officer: Chris Chapman, Borough Solicitor
Tel No: 01270-529637*

Email: chris.chapman@congleton.gov.uk

Background Documents:

None