

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Report to Council

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**Date of Meeting:** 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011

**Report of:** Borough Solicitor

**Title:** Election of Leader of the Council

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### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To elect a Leader of the Council for a four year term of office.

### **2.0 Decision Required**

That Council elects a Leader of the Council.

### **3.0 Legal Implications**

- 3.1 In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 the Council resolved to adopt the “Strong Leader” and Cabinet model of executive arrangements. The change in executive arrangements, as required by legislation, has to come into effect from May 2011.

### **4.0 Risk Assessment**

- 4.1 Failure to comply with the Act would leave the Council open to legal challenge.

### **5.0 Background**

- 5.1 At its meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2010 the Council resolved that the Strong Leader and Cabinet model of governance be adopted by the Council and this would be brought into effect at the beginning of May 2011, subject to any subsequent amending legislation.
- 5.2 There has been no amending legislation but members are asked to note that through the Localism Bill the Government intends to let Councils decide, in consultation with local people, what system is best for their community, whether that be a Mayor or Leader and Cabinet or a Committee system.
- 5.3 Council is invited to elect a Leader of the Council for the statutory four year term of office.
- 5.4 In accordance with Cabinet Procedure Rule 1 the Leader will also be invited to present to Council information about executive functions in the forthcoming year including details of those members appointed to Cabinet.

## **6. Reasons for Recommendations**

- 6.1 The reasons for the recommendation is to ensure that the Council fulfils its statutory obligations and meet the requirements of its Constitution.

### ***For further information:***

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***Background Documents: None***