

5. ARTICLE 5 – CHAIRING THE COUNCIL

5.1. Role and function of the Mayor

The Council will elect the Mayor annually. The Mayor will have the following responsibilities:

- to uphold and promote the Constitution, and to interpret the Constitution at meetings of the Council, on advice from the Monitoring Officer where necessary;
- to preside over meetings of the Council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of Councillors and the interests of the community;
- to ensure that the Council meeting is a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the local community and the place at which Members who are not on the Cabinet are able to hold the Leader and Cabinet to account;
- to promote public involvement in the Council's activities;
- to attend such civic and ceremonial functions as the Council and he/she determines appropriate;
- Such other duties that may fall to the Mayor to exercise by virtue of statute or this Constitution.

The Deputy Mayor, elected at the Annual Meeting of the Council, will have the following responsibilities:

- To assist and deputise for the Mayor in carrying out the responsibilities of office;
- In the absence of the Mayor the Deputy Mayor will chair meetings of the Council. In the absence of both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor, the Council will, as a first item of business appoint one of its members to chair the meeting;
- To attend such civic and ceremonial functions as the Council and Mayor may determine appropriate.

References:

Sections 3, 5, 245; schedule 2, 12; Local Government Act 1972
Schedule 3, Local Government Act 2000
Chapters 2, 4 and 9, DETR Guidance

