

Article 5 – Chairing the Council

Changes shown in red are recommendations of the Joint Constitution Working Group

5.1 Role and function of the [*Chairman/Mayor – as appropriate*]

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman [*or Mayor and Deputy Mayor*] will be elected annually by the Council.

Neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman [*or Mayor nor Deputy Mayor*] may be a member of the Cabinet.

The Chairman [*Mayor*] and in his/her absence the Vice-Chairman [*Deputy Mayor*] have the following roles.

5.2 Procedural role

The Chairman [*Mayor*] will:

- a. chair meetings of the full Council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of councillors and the interests of the community;
- b. uphold and promote the purposes of the constitution and interpret the rules of procedure at full Council meetings;
- c. ensure that full Council meetings are a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the community and one of the places at which councillors who are not on the Cabinet are able to hold the Cabinet to account;
- d. exercise a casting vote in the event of a tie at a full Council meeting with complete freedom of conscience.

5.3 Civic and ceremonial role

The Chairman [*Mayor*] is the ceremonial head of the council and will be its representative at civic and ceremonial events. He/she maintains an apolitical stance, especially when chairing full Council meetings. This part of the role includes:

- a. representing **and promoting** the whole [*district/borough*] during his/her term of office;
- b. ~~enhancing the image~~ **guarding the reputation** of the [*district/borough*]
- c. encouraging understanding of the council's role, priorities and partnerships

d. promoting public involvement in the council's activities.

DRAFT