

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Annual Meeting of the Council
Date: 22 May 2019
Report for: Decision
Report of: Corporate Director of Governance and Community Strategy

Report Title

APPOINTMENT OF LEADER AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE

Summary

To elect the Leader of the Council and note that the Leader will appoint the Deputy Leader, decide the composition of the Executive Cabinet and appoint the Membership of the Executive Cabinet.

Recommendation(s)

Council is requested to:

1. Elect a Leader of the Council and note the term of office and
 - note that the Leader proposes that the Executive shall comprise the Leader of the Council plus 9 councillors
 - note that the Leader proposes to appoint the membership of the Executive, including the appointment of a Deputy Leader as set out in the Appendix to the report.
2. Authorise the Corporate Director of Governance and Community Strategy to make the necessary amendments to the Constitution arising as a result of these proposed arrangements.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Ian Cockill
Extension: 1387
Background Papers: None

1.0 Background

1.1 At its meeting on 2 December 2009, the Council approved a new style 'strong' Leader and Cabinet model of executive leadership, in accordance with the Local Government and Health Act 2007. The Act required changes to the leadership of Councils giving only two options, both of which place all executive powers in the hands of one individual, who, in the normal course of events, will serve an uninterrupted 4 year term. The Council's new Executive Arrangements came into operation on 6 May 2010.

2.0 New Style Leader and Cabinet

2.1 Under this model the Council appoints the Leader for a fixed term of office of 4 years. The Leader then appoints a Cabinet but also determines the size of the Cabinet (within the statutory minimum and maximum of 3 and 10). Under these executive arrangements provision must be made for the appointment of a Deputy Leader with power to act in the Leader's absence. Again the Deputy Leader is appointed (and may also be removed) by the Leader.

2.2 The term of office of the Leader is from the date of election as Leader to the first annual meeting after their normal day of retirement as a councillor i.e. up to 4 years. Thus, a Leader needing to seek re-election as a councillor before the end of the maximum 4 year term will be elected for a shorter term.

2.3 The Council includes provisions in its Constitution whereby the Council may remove the Leader from office at any time (if the Council did not include such provision for the mid term removal of the Leader, the Leader would remain in office for their full term). The Council's Constitution states that the Leader shall hold office until:

(a) (s)he resigns from the office; or

(b) (s)he is disqualified from being a councillor; or

(c) (s)he is no longer a councillor; or

(d) the first Annual Meeting after their normal day of retirement as a councillor save that the Council may by resolution remove the Leader from office at an earlier date.

2.4 The Leader will be vested with all the authority's executive functions, initially holding all the Council's executive functions under their personal control. It is then for him/her to choose whether to exercise some or all of these functions personally or to make arrangements for their discharge by the executive, a committee of the executive, by an individual member of the executive, or by officers and these will be notified at the Annual Meeting of the Council.

2.5 Councillor Andrew Western's term of office ended in May this year and he was re-elected as a Member of Council. Council is therefore required to elect a Leader of the Council and to note the term of office.

- 2.6 Subject to his reappointment as Leader, Councillor Andrew Western proposes to appoint an Executive Member as Deputy Leader with power to act in the Leader's absence. Details of the proposed deputy are as set out in the Appendix
- 2.7 He is also proposing to appoint 9 Executive Members and these are set out in the Appendix. Executive Members appointed by the Leader of the Council (including the Executive Member appointed as Deputy Leader) shall hold office until:
- (a) they resign from office; or
 - (b) (s)he is disqualified from being a councillor; or
 - (c) they are no longer councillors; or
 - (d) the Annual General Meeting following the meeting at which they are appointed to the Executive save that the Leader of the Council may remove them from office either individually or collectively at an earlier date.

**EXECUTIVE
PORTFOLIOS 2019/20**

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>PORTFOLIO</u>
Andrew Western	Leader of the Council
Catherine Hynes (Deputy Leader)	Children's Social Care (with all statutory children's responsibilities)
Joanne Harding	Adult Social Care
Graham Whitham	Communities and Partnerships
Jane Baugh	Culture and Leisure
Stephen Adshead	Environment, Air Quality and Climate Change
Tom Ross	Finance and Investment
Jane Slater	Health, Wellbeing and Equalities
James Wright	Housing and Regeneration
Mike Freeman	Public Safety, Governance and Reform

Non-Executive Portfolio

Karina Carter	Lead Member for Education
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