

Article 5 – The *Leader of the Council* and the *Cabinet*

This article explains how the *Leader of the Council* is appointed and what they do. The *Leader of the Council* is the *Councillor* who is the political head of the Council.

It also explains and provides links to how the *Cabinet* works and what it does.

The *Cabinet* is a group of *Councillors* who work with Council staff to run the Council and take most decisions except those about major policy issues or setting the annual budget (which only the *Council Meeting* can do) or decisions on whether to give planning permissions or licenses which only the regulatory committees can do.

5.1 *Leader of the Council*

(a) Appointment

The *Council Meeting* will elect a *Councillor* to be the *Leader of the Council* for a four year term.

(b) Role

The *Leader of the Council* will normally chair meetings of the *Cabinet*, will lead in the formulation, co-ordination and presentation of the *Cabinet's* policies and liaise with the *Council's Management Team* on the carrying out of policies by the Council.

(c) Stopping being Leader of the Council

The *Leader of the Council* will stay as the *Leader of the Council* until:

- (i) they resign from office;
- (ii) they are suspended from being a *Councillor* although they may resume office at the end of the period of suspension;
- (iii) they are no longer a *Councillor*; or
- (iv) they are removed from office by resolution of the *Council Meeting*.

(Within the legislation there is a requirement for the Leader to nominate a Deputy Leader and provisions for the Deputy Leader to act in the intervening period until Council appoints a replacement Leader if the Leader is unable to do so or the post of Leader becomes vacant)

5.2 *The Cabinet*

(a) Role

The *Cabinet* will carry out all functions of the Council which are not the responsibility of another part of the Council, whether by law or under the *Functions Scheme*.

(b) Membership

The *Cabinet* will consist of the *Leader of the Council* and two or more *Councillors* (up to a maximum of 10 including the Leader) appointed by the *Leader*.

(c) Functions of individual members of the *Cabinet*

The *Leader of the Council* will decide what functions will be carried out by individual members of the *Cabinet*. The *Leader of the Council* will notify the *Monitoring Officer* of these functions in writing. The *Monitoring Officer* will make sure that they are set out in the *Functions Scheme*.

(d) Meetings of the *Cabinet*

Meetings of the *Cabinet* must follow the *Cabinet Rules*.