

COUNCIL – 14 JULY 2020

PART I – DELEGATED

3b. APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (CED)

1. Summary

- 1.1 Council is asked to agree the appointment of the Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Council as follows:

Councillor Sarah Nelmes – Leader of the Council.
Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst – Deputy Leader of the Council

2. Details

- 2.1 The Leader of the Council is appointed at Annual Council and then fulfils a number of key roles for the Council as listed below.

Chair of Policy and Resources Committee

Lead Member for the Local Plan

Leader of the Council representative on LGA General Assembly

Representative on East of England LGA

- 2.2 The Deputy exercises the powers and functions of the Leader in his/her absence.
- 2.3 Councillors Sara Bedford and Chris Lloyd were appointed to the roles at Annual Council in June 2020. The Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader appointments are filled from the majority Group who form the Administration.
- 2.4 Formal notification has now been received under the Local Government (Committees and Political Group) Regulations that with effect from the 13 July 2020 Councillor Sarah Nelmes is the Group Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party and Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst the Deputy Leader.
- 2.5 Council is therefore asked to agree new appointments to the various roles listed in 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3.

3. Options/Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 Appointment of the Leader and Deputy Leader is a matter for Council.

4. Policy and Budget Implications

- 4.1 There are none.

5. Environmental, Community Safety, Public Health, Customer Services Centre, Communications & Website, Risk Management and Health & Safety Implications

- 5.1 None specific.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 None. Allowances to the various roles are made in accordance with the approved Member allowances scheme.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 It is for Council to make the appointments of Leader and Deputy Leader.

7.2 Under the constitution the Leader of the Council has no formal power but he/she is seen as the member with the most significant role in the Council and will in effect be the political and elected head and chief ambassador for the District excluding civic and ceremonial duties. The Leader acts as Chair of Policy and Resources Committee.

7.3 The Deputy Leader exercises the powers and functions of the Leader in his/her absence.

8. Equal Opportunities Implications

8.1 Relevance Test – none specific.

8.2 Impact Assessment - no Impact Assessment required.

9. Staffing Implications

9.1 Some administrative support is offered to the Leader and Deputy Leader currently. This will continue and can be kept under review.

10. Risk and Health & Safety Implications

10.1 The Council has agreed its risk management strategy which can be found on the website at <http://www.threerivers.gov.uk>. In addition, the risks of the proposals in the report have also been assessed against the Council's duties under Health and Safety legislation relating to employees, visitors and persons affected by our operations. The risk management implications of this report are detailed below.

10.2 The subject of this report is not covered by the Council's corporate plan. Any risks resulting from this report will be included in the risk register and, if necessary, managed within this plan.

Nature of Risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response <i>(tolerate, treat, terminate, transfer)</i>	Risk Rating <i>(combination of likelihood and impact)</i>
Failure to appoint a Leader and Deputy Leader	Lack of political head	Appoint	Treat	2

10.3 The above risks are scored using the matrix below. The Council has determined its aversion to risk and is prepared to tolerate risks where the combination of impact and likelihood scores 6 or less.

Very Likely ----- Likelihood ----- ▼ Remote	Low 4	High 8	Very High 12	Very High 16
	Low 3	Medium 6	High 9	Very High 12
	Low 2	Low 4	Medium 6	High 8
	Low 1	Low 2	Low 3	Low 4
Impact ----- Low -----> Unacceptable				

Impact Score

Likelihood Score

4 (Catastrophic)

4 (Very Likely (≥80%))

3 (Critical)

3 (Likely (21-79%))

2 (Significant)

2 (Unlikely (6-20%))

1 (Marginal)

1 (Remote (≤5%))

10.4 In the officers' opinion none of the new risks above, were they to come about, would seriously prejudice the achievement of the Strategic Plan and are therefore operational risks. The effectiveness of the management of operational risks is reviewed by the Audit Committee annually.

11. Recommendation

11.1 Council is asked:

To appoint Councillor Sarah Nelmes as Leader of the Council with immediate effect.

11.2 To appoint Councillor Stephen Giles Medhurst as Deputy Leader of the Council with immediate effect.

11.3 To appoint Councillor Sarah Nelmes as Leader of the Council to the following roles:

Chair of Policy and Resources Committee

Lead Member for the Local Plan

Leader of the Council representative on LGA General Assembly

Representative on East of England LGA

Report prepared by: Sarah Haythorpe, Principal Committee Manager

Data Quality

Data sources:

Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972

Data checked by:

Anne Morgan, Solicitor to the Council

1	Poor	
2	Sufficient	√
3	High	

Background Papers – Annual Council 9 June 2020

APPENDICES / ATTACHMENTS

None