

ARTICLE 7 - THE CABINET

7.01 Role

The Cabinet will carry out all of the Council's functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the Council, whether by law or under this Constitution.

7.02 Form and composition

The Cabinet will consist of the Leader together with at least two, but not more than nine, councillors appointed to the Cabinet by the Leader. The quorum of the Cabinet will be the smallest number of members required to form a majority of the members appointed to it. There will be no reserve members of the Cabinet.

7.03 The Leader and Deputy Leader

The Leader will be a councillor elected to the position of Leader by the Council. The Leader will appoint one member of the Cabinet to the position of Deputy Leader. If for any reason the Leader is unable to act or the office of Leader is vacant, the Deputy Leader must act in his/her place until such time as the appointment of a replacement. If for any reason the Deputy Leader is unable to act or the office of Deputy Leader is vacant, the Cabinet must act in the Leader's place or must arrange for a member of the Cabinet to act in his/her place until such time as the appointment of a replacement.

In the absence of the Leader, Deputy Leader and the Cabinet, the Chief Executive will make arrangements for the discharge of Executive functions.

The Leader and Deputy Leader will hold office until:

- (a) he/she resigns from the office; or
- (b) he/she is suspended from being a councillor under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although he/she may resume office at the end of the period of suspension); or
- (c) he/she is no longer a councillor; or
- (d) he/she is removed from office by resolution of the Council following a change in the political control of the Council or a motion to remove the Leader as set out in Council Procedure Rule 15.5; or
- (e) the day of the post-election Annual Meeting of the Council next following the election of the Leader, and notwithstanding any provision in respect of the retirement of councillors generally the Leader will remain a councillor until that day, unless any of (a) to (d) above apply.

7.04 Other Cabinet members

Other Cabinet members shall hold office until:

- (a) they resign from office; or

- (b) they are suspended from being councillors under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although they may resume office at the end of the period of suspension); or
- (c) they are no longer councillors; or
- (d) they are removed from office by the Leader; or
- (e) the end of the four-year Council term to which they were appointed unless any of (a) to (d) above apply.

7.05 Cabinet Support Members

The Leader may, if he or she considers it appropriate to do so, appoint up to three councillors as Cabinet Support Members to provide support and assistance to particular Cabinet Members in their Lead Member roles. The Leader will appoint any Cabinet Support Members to support specific Lead Members. Cabinet Support Members will not be members of the Cabinet but will be entitled to receive the same information as the Lead Members they support and will not be entitled to act as a member of any scrutiny committee. Cabinet Support Members, where appointed, will hold office until:

- (a) they resign from office; or
- (b) they are suspended from being Councillors under Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (although they may resume office at the end of the period of suspension); or
- (c) they are no longer councillors; or
- (d) they are removed from office by the Leader; or
- (e) the end of the four-year Council term to which they were appointed unless any of (a) to (d) above apply.

7.06 Proceedings of the Cabinet

Proceedings of the Cabinet shall take place in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules and relevant Council Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

7.07 Motion to remove the Leader or members of the Cabinet

If the Leader is removed from office as the result of a vote by the Council, the responsibilities of the Leader will be carried out by the Deputy Leader until such time as the appointment of a replacement or the reappointment of the member concerned by the Council. If for any reason the Deputy Leader is unable to act or the office of Deputy Leader is vacant, the Cabinet must act in the Leader's place or must arrange for a member of the Cabinet to act in his/her place until such time as the appointment of a replacement or the reappointment of the member concerned by the Council.

7.08 Responsibility for functions

The Leader will determine the allocation of Executive functions which may be exercised by the Leader, individual members of the Cabinet, the Cabinet, a committee of the Cabinet or by officers. The Monitoring Officer will

maintain a list in Part 3 of this Constitution setting out which bodies or individuals are responsible for the exercise of particular executive functions.