

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING: COUNCIL

MEETING
DATE: 19th FEBRUARY 2013

TITLE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHAIR(MAN) DESIGNATE FOR 2013/14

WARD: ALL

AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM

List of attachments to this report: None

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to invite the Council to name a Councillor as Chair(man) of the Council (Designate) for the next Council Year beginning in May 2013.
- 1.2 The Council, at its Annual Meeting on 16th May 2013, will still be required formally to elect a Councillor to be the Chair(man) of the Council for the forthcoming Council Year.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Council names a Councillor to be treated for forward planning purposes as Chair(man) of the Council (Designate) for the 2013/14 Council Year.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

4.1 Because of the pivotal role of the Chair(man) of the Council in the community, the nomination, at this stage, of the Councillor who will hold the office from May 2013 will contribute towards the achievement of the Council's vision of Bath and North East Somerset as a distinctive place with vibrant communities.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The role of the Chair(man) of the Council has increased significantly in recent years. The number of civic engagements and requests for the presence of the Chair(man) at local events throughout the area continues to rise year on year.

5.2 In addition, the Chair(man) supports a number of awards and functions which require advance planning.

5.3 It is extremely helpful to community groups, and to the internal administration and scheduling of the Chair(man)'s functions, to have advanced confirmation of the Councillor who will hold the office from May 2013 and their preferred style of working and availability.

5.4 There is no requirement on the Council to name the intended Chair(man) in advance of the Council's Annual Meeting. The Council may prefer to leave the matter until then, when the election of Chair(man) for the year will by law be the first item of business on the agenda. The reasons for the recommended course of action are as set out in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.3 above.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 No risk assessment related to this issue is required because the decision as to whether to make a nomination at this stage in the Council Year rests solely with the Council and does not affect the legal requirement for the Chair(man) to be elected at the Annual General Meeting in May.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 The wide range of community groups who seek civic involvement in their activities through inviting the Chair(man) to their events will be helped in their diary planning by having a Councillor named as Chair(man) Designate at this stage. It will also assist the Councillor with his or her preparations for their year as Chair(man).

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

8.1 The Council's civic and corporate community interests.

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

9.1 The Chief Executive, the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer have had the opportunity to provide input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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| Contact person | <i>Jo Morrison, Democratic Services Manager, telephone 01225 394358</i> |
| Background papers | <i>None</i> |

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