

Bath & North East Somerset Council	
MEETING:	COUNCIL
MEETING DATE:	19th MARCH 2026
TITLE:	ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR DESIGNATE FOR 2026/27
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 indicate a Councillor as Chair of the Council (Designate) and Vice-Chair (Designate) for the next Council Year beginning in May 2026.
- 1.2 The Council, at its Annual Meeting in May 2026, will still be required formally to elect Councillors to these roles for the forthcoming Council Year.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Council names Councillors to be treated for forward planning purposes as Chair of the Council (Designate) and Vice Chair of the Council (Designate) for the 2026/27 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 of the Council in the community, the nomination of the Councillor who will hold the office from May 2026 will contribute towards the achievement of the Council's overriding purpose to improve people's lives.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Chair represents the Council at a number of civic engagements, whilst also supporting various awards and functions which require advance planning.
- 5.2 It is extremely helpful to community groups, and to the internal administration and scheduling of the Chair's functions, to have advanced confirmation of the Councillor who will hold the office from May 2026 and their preferred style of working and availability, although there is no requirement on the Council do so in advance of the Council's Annual Meeting. The Council may prefer to leave the

matter until then, when the election of Chair for the year will by law be the first item of business on the agenda.

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 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 to their events will be helped in their diary planning by having a Councillor named as Chair Designate at this stage. It will also assist the Councillor with his or her preparations for their year as Chair.

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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Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	