

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL	DATE 25 May 2022	ITEM NO 6
TITLE Election of Leader of the Council	WARDS All	
CHIEF OFFICER Chief Executive	CABINET MEMBER n/a	
DECISION CLASSIFICATION Non exempt report	IS THE FINAL DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REPORT TO BE MADE AT THIS MEETING? Yes	

1. **Decision Required**

- 1.1 The Council is requested to elect Councillor Anthony Okereke as Leader of the Council.

2. **Links to the Royal Greenwich high level objectives**

- 2.1 This report relates to the Council's agreed high level objectives as follows:

- A Healthier Greenwich
- A Safer Greenwich
- A Great Place to Grow Up
- Delivering Homes Through Economic Growth
- A Cleaner, Greener Greenwich
- Economic Prosperity for All
- A Great Place to Be
- A Strong Vibrant and Well-run Borough

3. **Purpose of Report and Executive Summary**

- 3.1 To elect a Leader of the Council as required by law and in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

4. **Introduction and Background**

- 4.1 The Local Government Act 2000 requires the Leader to be appointed by Full Council. Once elected it falls to the Leader of the Council to appoint his/her deputy and to appoint the Cabinet.

Leader of the Council

- 4.2 The Leader's role and responsibilities are set out in Article 7 of the Constitution and he / she holds office until:
- (a) the day of the first annual meeting after the next ordinary Council elections, or
 - (b) he/she ceases to be a councillor otherwise than by retirement, or
 - (c) he/she is removed from office by a resolution of the Council.
- 4.3 The Leader is responsible for appointing a member of the Cabinet to be Deputy Leader. The Deputy Leader acts in place of the Leader if for any reason the Leader is unable to act or if the office of Leader is vacant. The Deputy Leader will hold office until the end of the Leader's term of office, unless:
- (a) He or she resigns as Deputy Leader or ceases to be a councillor, or
 - (b) He or she is removed from office by the Leader.
- 4.4 The Leader must fill any vacancy in the office of Deputy Leader.

Role of the Leader

- 4.5 The Leader of the Council is responsible for all of the Council's executive functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the Council, whether by law or under this Constitution.
- 4.6 The Leader can delegate functions to themselves, a Cabinet Member, the Cabinet, joint committee or Chief Officer or which have not been delegated by the Leader.

5. **Available Options**

- 5.1 Not applicable as the Council is required to appoint a Leader of the Council in line with the executive model adopted by the Council in 2001.

6. **Preferred Option**

6.1 Not applicable.

7. **Reasons for Recommendations**

7.1 To comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Constitution.

8. **Consultation Results**

8.1 Not applicable.

9. **Communication and Implementation of the Decision**

9.1 The decision will be published on the Council's website.

10. **Cross-Cutting Issues and Implications**

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	The Local Government Act 2000 makes provisions for the establishment of a leader and cabinet executive, including the election of the executive leader, and the duration of the term of office of the leader. This report forms part of the required business of the Annual Meeting of the Council, as stated in the Council's Constitution, Part 4, A1.3	John Scarborough, Director of Legal & HR, 20 May 2022
Finance and other resources including procurement implications	There are no financial implications arising from this report.	Damon Cook, Director of Finance 20 May 2022
Equalities	The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no apparent equality impact on end users.	Veronica Johnson, Head of Corporate Governance and Democratic Services 20 May 2022

Climate Change	Not applicable as this is an administrative decision	Veronica Johnson, Head of Corporate Governance and Democratic Services 20 May 2022
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II. **Background Papers**

II.1 None

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