



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Report to Council

Report of: Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Date: 6th January 2021

Subject: Appointment of a New Leader of the Council

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Summary:

This report seeks approval for a new Leader of the Council to be appointed at the Council meeting, to serve for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

Recommendations:

That the Council:-

- (a) notes the information contained in the report, in particular the resignation of Councillor Julie Dore as Leader of the Council with effect from 6th January 2021;
- (b) determines that a new Leader of the Council be appointed at the meeting, to serve for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year; and
- (c) appoints a new Leader of the Council.

Background Papers:

1. Constitution of Sheffield City Council
2. The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial implications
NO – Cleared by Paul Schofield
Legal implications
YES – Cleared by Andrea Simpson
Equality of Opportunity implications
NO
Tackling Health Inequalities implications
NO
Human Rights implications
NO
Environmental and Sustainability implications
NO
Economic impact
NO
Community Safety implications
NO
Human Resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
None
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
N/A
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
Yes
Press release
NO

Appointment of a New Leader of the Council

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for a new Leader of the Council to be appointed at the Council meeting, to serve for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

2. APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

- 2.1 The constitutional requirements for the appointment of a Leader of the Council and notification of arrangements for the discharge of Executive functions, as set out in Chapter 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, are outlined in the report published with this agenda under the next item of business (Item 4 - Executive Arrangements).
- 2.2 At the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 15th May 2019, Councillor Julie Dore was appointed Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2019/20.
- 2.3 Councillor Dore's term of office as Leader of the Council was extended by virtue of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, which disapply the requirement to have an Annual Meeting in 2020 and provide that where an appointment would otherwise be made at the annual meeting, such appointment continues until the next annual meeting or until such time as the Authority may determine.
- 2.4 Towards the end of November 2020, Councillor Dore announced that she would be standing down as Leader of the Council and would formally resign as Leader, with effect from the date of this Council meeting, on 6th January 2021.
- 2.5 In view of Councillor Dore's resignation, the Council is required to determine that a new Leader of the Council be appointed at this meeting, to serve for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year, and to then appoint a Member to the position of Leader of the Council.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial implications relating to the appointment of a new Leader of the Council. Under the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme, the Leader of the Council does receive a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) (currently £19,615.67 per annum) in addition to the Basic Allowance received by each Member of the Council. The cessation of the Leader's SRA for the current post-holder and commencement of the payment of the Leader's SRA to the new post-holder with effect from the same date, is cost neutral.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The legal implications are set out in the body of this report.

5. EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no equalities implications.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 That the Council:-

6.1.1 notes the information contained in the report, in particular the resignation of Councillor Julie Dore as Leader of the Council with effect from 6th January 2021;

6.1.2 determines that a new Leader of the Council be appointed at the meeting, to serve for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year; and

6.1.3 appoints a new Leader of the Council.

Gillian Duckworth
Director of Legal & Governance (and Monitoring Officer)