

# NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Council

### Report of the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services

K. Jones

#### Matter for Decision

**Wards Affected:**All Wards

#### Mayoral Arrangements

#### Purpose of Report

1. To advise Council of the nominations put forward by the three political Group leaders for mayoral and deputy mayoral appointments for the current civic year and future civic years
2. To seek Council's decisions regarding the nominations referred to in (1) above.
3. To seek Council approval for the criteria for selection of mayoral candidates beyond the years specifically dealt with in this report.

#### **Background**

The Council elects a mayor and deputy mayor to preside over Council proceedings and discharge the duties of the First Citizen each year.

The three political Group leaders have met to consider nominations for the remainder of this civic year and future civic years. They have also discussed and are putting forward, for the consideration of Council, criteria for selecting mayoral and deputy mayoral appointments for succeeding years. Their collective proposals are put forward today for Council consideration, and if thought appropriate, for approval:

## Nominations:

<b>Civic Year</b>	<b>Mayor Nominee</b>	<b>Deputy Mayor Nominee</b>
September 29 <sup>th</sup> 2017 – end of civic year 2018	Cllr D Keogh	Cllr S Jones
Civic Year 2018-19	Cllr D Keogh	Cllr S Jones
Civic Year 2019-20	Cllr S Jones	Cllr J Warman
Civic Year 2020-21	Cllr J Warman	Cllr L Purcell
Civic Year 2021-22	Cllr L Purcell	To be confirmed

## Criteria for selection of mayoral candidates from 2022:

The three Group leaders are agreed that setting in place transparent criteria for selection of mayoral candidates is in the public interest. It is usual for the longest serving members to have the opportunity to take up the role of First Citizen.

For clarity, the proposed criteria for mayoral selection beyond those specifically dealt with in this report are as follows:

In order of priority:

1. The total length of service in Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and its immediate predecessor authorities. This will be the overriding criteria;
2. Once a Member has served as mayor of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council then they will be assumed to have zero qualifying service in the civic year immediately following the civic year ie they will go to the back of the queue of other Members who may eventually become eligible for selection
3. Candidates with the relevant length of service will not be disqualified if they were mayor in an immediate pre-decessor authority;
4. Candidates with the relevant length of service will not be disqualified if they do not have continuous service ie if the Member has a total number of years that make them eligible for appointment to mayor on length of service but have a break in service for whatever reason, they remain eligible on the primary criteria of length of service; and

5. Every time there is a vacancy for the office of Mayor/First Citizen every candidate eligible will be asked to indicate their wish to be considered for the office based on their total length of service as set out in 1 above. There will be no restriction on the number of times a candidate may refuse the office as this may reflect their personal circumstances at the time vacancies become available.

### **Consultation**

There is no requirement for public consultation on this proposal.

### **Financial Appraisal**

There is no new financial impact arising from this proposal

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

The Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies to “pay due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it.”

Criteria of length of service can, in some instances lead to indirect sex and age discrimination.

### **Workforce Impact**

There are no workforce impacts arising from this proposal.

### **Legal Powers and Duties**

Part II of the Local Government Act 1972 Paragraph 22

### **Recommendations**

Members approve the nominations for mayor and deputy mayor set out above.

Members approve the proposed criteria for selecting future mayoral and deputy mayoral candidates for periods beyond that specifically dealt with in this report.

### **Reason for Proposed Decision**

To identify and agree the mayoral and deputy mayoral appointments for the remainder of this civic year, 2017-18 to 2022.

To agree the criteria for appointment of mayoral and deputy mayoral appointments beyond the periods specifically dealt with in this report to ensure transparency.

### **Background Papers**

Local Government Act 1972

Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011

### **Officer Reporting:**

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