

Report of the City Solicitor

Report to: Outer South Community Committee

Ardley & Robin Hood, Morley North, Morley South and Rothwell Wards.

Report author: Gerard Watson, Senior Governance Officer, 0113 395 2194

Date: Wednesday, 20 May 2015 **For decision**

Election of the Community Committee Chair for the 2015/2016 Municipal Year

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to set out the arrangements for the election of Chairs for Community Committees and that in line with this process, to recommend that this Community Committee elects an eligible Member to the position of Community Committee Chair for the 2015/2016 municipal year.

Main issues

2. The Community Committee Procedure Rules state that the Chair will be elected from amongst the City Councillors eligible to serve on that Committee.
3. Each Political Group with Members elected within a Community Committee's boundary may submit a nomination from amongst the Members on the Community Committee to Chair that Committee, via the Group Whip. An Independent Member may also put forward a nomination.
4. The deadline for the submission of nominations for the position of Chair was 5.00pm on Tuesday, 19th May 2015. The Community Committee will be notified at the meeting of the nominations which have been received, prior to the election taking place.

5. The Chair will be elected by an overall majority of first votes cast by those Members eligible to do so and present at the meeting. The Member presiding at the meeting as Chair will not have a second or casting vote. If no overall majority is achieved, then the nominee with the smallest number of votes will be eliminated from consideration and the vote repeated.
6. Where an overall majority of votes cannot be obtained, or it is not possible to hold or convene a quorate meeting of the Community Committee, or for any other reason a decision is not possible in advance of the Annual Council Meeting, then the appointment will be made at the Annual Council Meeting.
7. The relevant extract of the Community Committee Procedure Rules, which relates to the appointment of Chair process can be found at Appendix A.

Options

8. In terms of options, Committee Members are invited to elect a Chair from the nominees submitted, as reported to the meeting.

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and engagement

9. All Group Whips and Independent Members have been given due notice of the deadlines relating to the submission of nominations for the position of Community Committee Chairs, and have been provided with details of the process.

Legal implications, access to information and call in

10. In line with Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 5.1.2, the power to Call In decisions does not extend to those decisions taken by Community Committees.
11. The process summarised above regarding the election of Community Committee Chairs is in line with current Procedure Rules, as appended.

Risk Management

12. There are no risks directly arising from the submission of this report to the Community Committee, however, not electing a Chair for the 2015/16 municipal year at this meeting will mean that the matter would be resolved at the Annual Council Meeting.

Conclusion

13. The Community Committee Procedure Rules state that the Chair of each Committee will be elected from amongst the City Councillors eligible to serve on that Committee. The Committee therefore is recommended to elect a Chair at this meeting for the 2015/2016 Municipal Year, from the nominations which have been received.

Recommendations

14. Members of the Community Committee are recommended to elect a Community Committee Chair for the 2015/2016 Municipal Year, from amongst the nominations which have been received.

Background information

15. Not applicable