

ANNUAL COUNCIL – 9 JUNE 2020

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL - METHOD OF ELECTION

1 Summary

To elect the Chairman of the Council for the Local Government Year 2020/2021 in accordance with the procedure agreed by Council on 8 March 1988 (Minute No 229/88) and 19 April 1988 (Minute No 398/88) and on the point's scheme ("the schemes").

In accordance with the above, Members will note that the points total for each political group represented on the Council on 1 May 2020 is as follows:-

Liberal Democrats	33
Labour	15
Conservatives	-5 (minus)
Unallocated points	5

Regulations made under the Coronavirus Act 2020 postponed the local elections to May 2021.

Each political group represented on the Council is awarded one additional point for each seat held at the date of the Annual Council meeting. Therefore, the points total for each political group on 1 June 2020 is:-

Liberal Democrats	33 + 22	= 55
Labour	15 + 3	= 18
Conservative	-5 + 12	= 7
Independent Councillors Group	2	= 2
Unallocated points	5	= 5

Under the scheme, the Liberal Democrat Group is entitled to nominate the Chairman for the current 2020/21 local government year with 39 points deducted from their total.

The Labour Group is entitled to nominate the Chairman for the 2021/2022 local government year with that nominee acting as Vice Chair for the current year (2020/2021). However the Labour Group has formally confirmed that it does not want to accept the office of Chairman of the Council in 2021/2022 and accordingly will not be putting forward a nominee of the Vice Chair position in this local government year.

The Scheme provides the following details on what happens if a Political Party declines to take up the Office of Chairman:

(vi) In the event of the party group entitled by the points scheme to hold the Chairmanship refusing to accept the office, 27 points to be deducted from the cumulative points total of that group.

(vii) 20 points to be deducted from the cumulative points total of the party group which accepted the Chairmanship in consequence of (vi) above.

This means that the Labour Group will lose 27 points in the year they would have become Chairman (2021/22).

The points to be carried forward to 1 May 2021 will be:

Liberal Democrats	16
Labour	18 (27 points to be deducted in 2021/22) making the points minus 9
Conservative	7
Independent Councillors Group	2
Unallocated points	5