

Meeting:	Council
Meeting Date:	19 November 2024
Publication:	Open
Wards:	All
Report of:	Chief Executive

Subject: Election of the Leader of the Council

1. Recommendations

Council is asked to:

- 1.1. Elect Councillor Una O'Halloran as the Leader of the Council.

2. Report summary

- 2.1. Following the election of Councillor Una O'Halloran as the Leader of the Labour Group, the largest political group on the Council, the Council is recommended to elect Councillor O'Halloran as Leader of the Council.

3. Details

- 3.1. The Leader of the Council is elected every four years, following a local election, by all members of the Council. If the post falls vacant within that term, a new Leader of the Council will be elected whose term of office will last until the next local election or their resignation or until they cease to be a councillor.
- 3.2. The Leader of the Council remains a councillor for the period of their appointment.
- 3.3. The Leader's role is to provide effective political leadership and strategic direction to the Council, to ensure effective Corporate Governance and to ensure that the Council delivers high quality, value for money services.
- 3.4. The Leader appoints an Executive of up to nine Executive Members to manage portfolios of services and chairs Executive meetings.

4. Implications

4.1. Financial Implications

4.1.1. There are no financial implications arising from this decision.

4.2. Legal Implications

4.2.1. The Local Government Act 2000 introduced the Leader, Executive and Scrutiny model of governance and following a referendum, this model was adopted by the Council in 2002.

4.3. Climate Change and Environmental Implications

4.3.1. There are no climate change or environmental implications arising from this decision.

4.4. Equalities Impact Assessment

4.4.1. The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

4.4.2. There are no equalities impacts arising from this decision.

5. Timetable for implementation

5.1. Councillor O'Halloran's appointment as Leader of the Council will be effective immediately.

Appendices: None

Relevant decisions / reports: None

Report approval:

Authorised by: **Chief Executive**

Date: 11 November 2024

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