

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Annual Council:	9 May 2024
By:	Committee Services Manager
Cabinet Portfolio Member:	Councillor Everitt, Leader of the Council
Key Decision:	No
Decision classification:	Unrestricted
Call in status:	No
Ward:	All

Purpose of the Report

This report is to allow Thanet District Council to elect a Chair for the ensuing Municipal year.

Recommendation(s):

That the election of the Chair of the Council be agreed.

1. Summary of Reasons

- 1.1 Thanet Council is required to elect a Chair of Council as per Paragraph (1) of Section 4 of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

2. Background

- 2.1 The constitution of the Council states that: "The annual meeting will consider the following:- (ii) elect the Chair of Council;" This clause in the Council's constitution fulfils the requirement in law as outlined at paragraph 1.1 of the report.

3. Relevant Issues

- 3.1 Nominations for Chair of the Council have been invited from the Leaders of the Political Groups and will be announced at the meeting.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 The Council could choose to appoint a chair for the meeting, however this is not recommended as the election would need to be repeated at every subsequent Council meeting until a permanent Chair is elected.

5. Consultation

5.1 Statutory Consultation is not required for this matter.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Finance and Resources

6.1.1 There are no direct financial or resourcing implications arising from this decision.

6.2 Legal and Constitutional

6.2.1 Section 3 Local Government Act 1972 requires that the chair of a principal council be elected annually by the council from among the councillors. The Act provides that a member of the executive may not be appointed as chair. The chair is required to continue in office until his successor becomes entitled to act as chair, unless he or she resigns or is disqualified.

6.3 Council Policies and Priorities

6.3.1 *To work efficiently for you*

6.4 Risk

6.4.1 If Council does not elect a Chair of Council, then it would be at risk of acting unlawfully.

6.5 Climate Change and Biodiversity

6.5.1 There are no climate change or biodiversity implications to this report.

7. Equality, Equity and Diversity Implications

7.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report, as one of the 56 Councillors will be elected as Chair in a democratic vote.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications and Community impact

8.1 There are no crime and disorder implications to this report.

Subject History

The Council elects a Chair at its Annual meeting every year.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

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Report Sign Off

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Finance Chris Blundell (Director of Corporate Services - Section 151)