

Report

Newport City Council

Part 1

Date: 30 January 2018

Subject **Mayoralty**

Purpose To consider a request for an extended deferral of a mayoral term.

Author Democratic Services and Communications Manager

Ward All wards

Summary Newport City Council's method of selecting the Mayor is fair and balanced and determined exclusively on seniority. This means that the longest serving member of the Council who has not served as the Mayor before, will be nominated to serve as Mayor irrespective of which political party he or she represents.

However, from time to time, the prospective incoming Mayor may need to defer his or her election as Mayor for personal reasons. At its meeting on 4 April 2017, Council agreed to formalise the previously informal agreement that an individual could defer their nomination for 12 months. It was agreed that any longer deferral would be a matter for decision by the Council.

Councillor Mark Whitcutt deferred his nomination for the mayoralty last year. Councillor Whitcutt has requested a further deferral, until May 2021, for the reasons outlined in this report.

Proposal **To agree the deferral of Councillor Mark Whitcutt's mayoral nomination until May 2021.**

Action by Democratic Services and Communications Manager

Timetable Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Head of Law and Regulation
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Signed

Background

Newport City Council's method of selecting the Mayor is fair and balanced and determined exclusively on seniority. This means that the longest serving member of the Council who has not served as the Mayor before, will be nominated to serve as Mayor irrespective of which political party he or she represents.

However, from time to time, the prospective incoming Mayor may need to defer his or her election as Mayor for personal reasons. At its meeting on 4 April 2017, Council agreed to formalise the previously informal agreement that an individual could defer their nomination for 12 months. It was agreed that any longer deferral would be a matter for decision by the Council.

Councillor Mark Whitcutt deferred his nomination for the mayoralty last year. Councillor Whitcutt has requested a further deferral, until May 2021, due to the current ill health of his fiancée who would serve alongside him as Mayoress.

Financial Summary

There are no financial implications.

Risks

Not applicable.

Links to Council Policies and Priorities

In this paragraph please set out how your proposals fit in with Council's priorities or plans.

Proposal

To agree the deferral of Councillor Mark Whitcutt's mayoral nomination until May 2021.

Comments of Chief Financial Officer

There are no financial implications.

Comments of Monitoring Officer

Comments of Head of People and Business Change

There are no implications for People and Business Change.

Background Papers

n/a

Dated: 23 January 2018