

CHARTER TRUSTEES FOR THE CITY OF DURHAM

At the **Meeting** of the **Charter Trustees for the City of Durham** held in the Committee Room 1B, County Hall, Durham, on Wednesday 27 March 2019 at 11.30 am

Present: The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Durham, Councillor J Lethbridge (in the Chair) and Councillors D Bell, J Blakey, L Brown, J Chaplow, K Corrigan, S Dunn, D Freeman, D Hall, A Hopgood, B Kellett, L Mavin, M McKeon, E Scott, A Simpson, D Stoker, P Taylor, F Tinsley, J Turnbull, M Wilkes and M Wilson

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L Hovvels, C Marshall, E Mavin, R Ormerod and M Simmons.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 To receive nominations for the Deputy Mayor

The Mayor asked Trustees for nominations for the Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2018/19 prior to their formal appointment at the Annual Meeting.

Seconded by Councillor M Wilson, Councillor Corrigan moved that Councillor Lucy Hovvels be nominated Deputy Mayor of Durham for the ensuring Municipal Year 2019/20.

Seconded by Councillor L Mavin, Councillor Hopgood moved that Councillor David Freeman be nominated Deputy Mayor of Durham for the ensuring Municipal Year 2019/20.

Upon a vote being taken, it was **Resolved:**

That Councillor Lucy Hovvels be nominated Deputy Mayor of Durham for Municipal Year 2019/20 and be formally appointed at the Annual Meeting.

Councillor Hopgood asked that the way the Deputy Mayor is appointment be reviewed for the next municipal year as the position is a non-political role and the current system had been the same for the past 10 years. It was noted that other authorities operate systems based on different criteria such as length of service or

rota systems. She suggested a Working Group be set up to look at different options available.

Charter Trustees discussed how the appointment was previously made by the former Durham City Council and how to move forward. A concern was raised with the suggestion that the criteria include length of service which would restrict the opportunity for younger Trustees to be appointed to the role of Deputy Mayor.

Seconded by Councillor Scott, Councillor Hopgood moved that a Working Group be arranged in the next Municipal Year 2019/20 to look at different criteria options for appointing the Deputy Mayor of the City of Durham, and a report detailing the options be reported back to Charter Trustees at a future meeting.

Upon a vote being taken, it was further **Resolved:**

- i) That a Working Group be arranged in the next Municipal Year 2019/20 to look at criteria options for appointing the Deputy Mayor of the City of Durham;
- ii) That a report detailing criteria options for appointing the Deputy Mayor be reported back to Charter Trustees at a future meeting.

5 Yearly Approval of Risk Assessment of Governance Arrangements

Charter Trustees considered a report of the Clerk that requested approval of the risk assessment for governance arrangements (for copy see file of minutes).

The Governance Solicitor advised that external auditors had carried out a risk assessment process to review effectiveness of internal controls that was to be reviewed annually before the end of each financial year.

The Clerk and the Risk, Insurance and Governance Manager, both reviewed the risk assessment matrix and reported that there were no recommended changes to the risk profile.

Resolved:

That the risk assessment for governance arrangements be approved and accepted for year end March 2019.