

HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

Audit & Regulatory Committee

24 November 2020

TITLE:	Appointment of Mayor 2021/22
EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR:	Councillor Anthony McKeown - Leader
CONTACT OFFICER:	Linden Vernon – Senior Officer (Governance and Member Support)
WARDS INVOLVED:	Non-Specific

Appendices Attached – None

1. Reason for the Report

- 1.1 To consider the selection of the Mayor for the municipal year 2021/22.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Council reaffirms its previous decision to invite the Conservative Group to make a nomination for the appointment of Mayor of the Borough and Chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2021/22.

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 The Mayor is selected according to a points system as referred to in Article 5 of the Constitution and detailed in the Protocol for the Nomination of Mayor.
- 3.2 At its meeting on 23 October 2019 the Committee recommended that the Conservative Group be invited to make a nomination for the appointment of Mayor of the Borough and Chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2020/21. Although Council subsequently ratified the recommendation on 4 December 2019 the new Mayor was not appointed. This was because of the cancellation of the Annual Council meeting due to the impact of Coronavirus pandemic and the incumbent Mayor, Councillor Ed Kelly, remains in place.
- 3.3 Given these circumstances it is proposed that the Committee recommends the previous decision to invite the Conservative Group to make a nomination for the appointment of Mayor of the Borough and Chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2021/22.

4. **How this report links to Corporate Priorities**

4.1 Not applicable.

5. **Alternative Options**

5.1 Nomination of the Mayor is ordinarily in accordance with the points system as referred to in the report.

Mark Trillo

Executive Director (People) and Monitoring Officer

Web Links and Background Papers

[Article 5 of the Constitution and Protocol for the Nomination of Mayor](#)

Contact details

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6. **Detail**

6.1 The Mayor is selected according to a points system as referred to in Article 5 of the Constitution and detailed in the Protocol for the Nomination of Mayor.

6.2 The basic principle is the political group with most points at 1 October each year, has the opportunity to nominate the Mayor for the next municipal year.

6.3 The system started with the actual number of members in each political group. Since 1980, annual adjustments have been made according to changes in each group's strength. The points allocated to the political groups have been adjusted following the elections held in May this year.

6.4 Whenever a group nominate a Mayor, ten points are deducted from their points total and this shows up the following October.

6.5 When the Committee last considered the appointment of Mayor on 23 October 2019 the points system for the selection of the Mayor stood as follows:

Group	Points as at 1.10.18	Mayor for 2019/20	Points as at 1.10.19
Conservative	15-10=5		5+16=21
Labour	14	X	14-10+22=26
Liberal Democrat	11		11+3=14
Green			2

- 6.6 It was reported at the Committee that the Labour Group, despite having the highest number of points, would not exercise the selection of Mayor from within its own membership for 2020/21. The Protocol for the Nomination of Mayor states that where this is the case the option will pass to the group with the next highest number of points. The Labour Group deferred the nomination on this occasion, because it was the view of the current administration that where practical or possible the Deputy Mayor should go on to serve as Mayor.
- 6.7 The Committee therefore recommended that the Conservative Group be invited to make a nomination for the appointment of Mayor of the Borough and Chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2020/21. Although Council subsequently ratified the recommendation on 4 December 2019 the new Mayor was not appointed. This was because of the cancellation of the Annual Council meeting due to the impact of Coronavirus pandemic and the incumbent Mayor, Councillor Ed Kelly, remains in place.
- 6.8 Given these circumstances it is proposed that the Committee recommends the previous decision to invite the Conservative Group to make a nomination for the appointment of Mayor of the Borough and Chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2021/22.