

ARTICLE 5 - CHAIRING THE COUNCIL

5.01 Role and Function of the Chair of the Council

The Chair of the Council and in their absence, the Vice-Chair of the Council will have the following roles and functions:

- Chairing the Full Council meeting
- Ceremonial role as first citizen of the Borough and on appropriate ceremonial occasions, bearer of the title of Civic Mayor, reflecting ancient custom and practice and Royal charter.

The Chair of the Council will be elected by the annual meeting of the Full Council. The Chair of the Council will have the following responsibilities:

- (a) to uphold and promote the purposes of the Constitution, and to interpret the Constitution when necessary;
- (b) to preside over meetings of the Full Council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of Councillors and the interests of the community;
- (c) to ensure that Full Council meetings are a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the local community and a place at which Members who are not on the Executive are able to hold the Executive to account;
- (d) to promote public involvement in the Council's activities;
- (e) to be the conscience of the Council; and
- (f) to attend and host such civic and ceremonial functions as the Council and the Chair of the Council determines, in consultation with the Mayor.
- (g) Honorary Title of Civic Mayor

The Chair of Council may bear the title of "Civic Mayor", reflecting ancient custom and practice and Royal Charter, when undertaking ceremonial duties. At all other times the title "Chair of Council" should be used. References in this Constitution to Mayor are to the Elected Mayor.

Statutory and Guidance References
Local Government Act 1972 ss3, 5, 245, Schs 2, 12
Local Government Act 2000 Sch 3
DETR New Council Constitutions Guidance Chapters 2, 4