

Report to General Purposes and Arbitration Committee

14 March 2023

Subject:	Nominations for the Offices of Mayor/Chair of Sandwell Council and Deputy Mayor for the 2022/23 Municipal Year
Director:	Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer – Surjit Tour
Contact Officer:	Trisha Newton Senior Democratic Services Officer Trisha_newton@sandwell.gov.uk

1 Recommendations







- 1.1 That the Committee recommends to Council the nominations for the offices of the Civic Mayor and Deputy Civic Mayor of Sandwell for the Municipal year 2022/24.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee has delegated authority on behalf of Council to consider and make recommendations on the nomination of Elected Members to the offices of Mayor/ Deputy Mayor and Chair/ Vice- Chair of Sandwell Council for the Municipal Year 2023/24.



3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

     	As the first citizen of Sandwell, the Civic Mayor and Deputy Civic Mayor are ambassadors of the Council, thus promoting and thereby contributing to all of the Council's ambitions.
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4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 The Council, at its meeting on 8 January 2013, approved the process for the selection of Civic Mayor based on the following criteria:-

- nominees shall be serving members of Sandwell Council who have not previously served as Civic Mayor;
- nominees shall have given notable service to the Borough of Sandwell as a councillor and/or within the local community;
- each nomination shall be submitted by a serving member of the Council supported by five other serving members of the Council, regardless of political party.

4.2 All members of the Council have been invited to submit nominations for the office of Civic Mayor. All valid nominations will be reported at the meeting.

4.3 As Civic Mayor the individual will be Chair of the meetings of Full Council. In this capacity the Mayor will have the following responsibilities:

- to uphold and promote the purposes of the Constitution, and to interpret the Constitution when necessary;
- to preside over meetings of the Council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of councillors and the interests of the community;
- to ensure the efficient dispatch of business in accordance with Standing Orders;



- to ensure that the Council meeting is a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the local community and the place at which members who are not on the Executive are able to hold the Executive members to account;
- to ensure the thorough conduct of scrutiny, when undertaken by the Council in accordance with the procedure rules set out in Part 4 of the Constitution;
- to promote public involvement in the Council's activities;
- to be the conscience of the Council.

5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 The Council is legally required to appoint a Civic Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2023/24 municipal year.

6 Implications

Resources:	The Council makes financial provision annually to enable the functions of the Mayoralty to be undertaken. Staff support is provided by the Member and Business Support Team.
Legal and Governance:	The Council is legally required to appoint a Civic Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the 2023/24 municipal year. The General Purposes and Arbitration Committee has the responsibility under its terms of reference to make recommendations to the Council on nominations for the Civic Mayor of the Council. The role and responsibilities of the Civic Mayor are contained within Article 5 of the Council's Constitution.
Risk:	There are no risk implications arising from this report
Equality:	An equality impact assessment is not required
Health and Wellbeing:	There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.
Social Value	There are no implications arising directly from this report.
Climate Change	There are no climate change implications arising directly from this report.



Corporate Parenting	There are no corporate parenting implications arising directly from this report.
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7. Appendices

None

8. Background Papers

None

