

Blaby District Council
Annual Council

Date of Meeting 20 May 2025

Title of Report **Election of the Leader of the Council**

This is not a Key Decision and is not on the Forward Plan

Report Author **Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer**

Strategic Theme All Themes: Enabling communities and supporting vulnerable residents; Enhancing and maintaining our natural and built environment; Growing and supporting our economy; Keeping you safe and healthy; Ambitious and well managed Council, valuing our people

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To receive nominations for and elect to the position of Leader of Blaby District Council.

2. Recommendation to Council

- 2.1 That an election be made to the position of the Leader of the Council.

3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is a constitutional requirement to elect to the position of the Leader of the Council.

4. Matters to consider

- 4.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Part 4 Section 1.1 (f) the Annual Meeting of Council, following an ordinary election, will elect the Leader of the Council.

Under the Leader and Cabinet Executive model of governance, the following applies to the election of the Leader and the appointment of the Deputy Leader:

Leader

The Leader is elected by full Council at its post-election annual meeting (or, if the Council fails to elect a leader at that meeting, at a subsequent meeting of the Council). The term of office of the Leader starts on the day of his/her election as Leader unless he/she:

- a. is removed from office or resigns;
- b. ceases to be a Councillor, or
- c. is disqualified from being a Councillor before that day.

Deputy Leader

The Leader appoints one of the Members of the Cabinet (Executive) to be his/her deputy, to hold office until the end of the term of office as Leader (unless the person resigns as Deputy Leader, ceases to be a Councillor or is disqualified or removed from office by the Leader). The Leader may, if he/she thinks fit, remove the Deputy Leader from office, but must then appoint another person in his/her place.

Absent Leader

If for any reason the Leader is unable to act or the office of Leader is vacant, the Deputy Leader must act in his/her place. If the Deputy Leader is unable to act or the office is vacant, the Cabinet (Executive) must act in the Leader's place or arrange for a member of the Cabinet (Executive) to do so.

Removal of Leader

Under Part 3, Section 1 of the Council's Constitution, the Leader of the Council can be removed from that post if a resolution is passed at a meeting of Full Council. The resolution requires approval by a simple majority of Members present at the meeting to be passed. If such a resolution is passed, a new Leader is to be elected –

- (a) at the meeting at which the Leader was removed from office, or
- (b) at a subsequent meeting.

The Chairman will therefore call for nominations for this position.

4.2 Proposal(s)

That Council receives nominations to elect the Leader of the Council.

4.3 Relevant Consultations

Not applicable.

4.4 Significant Issues

In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities and there are no areas of concern.

5. Environmental impact

- 5.1 No Net Zero and Climate Impact Assessment (NZCIA) is required for this report.

6. What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?

- 6.1 The Leader will receive a Special Responsibility Allowance as set out in the Members' Allowance Scheme at Part 6 of the Constitution.

7. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

- 7.1 None in the context of this report.

8. Other options considered

- 8.1 No other options have been considered.

9. Appendix

- 9.1 None.

10. Background paper(s)

- 10.1 None.

11. Report author's contact details

Sandeep Tiensa Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
sandeep.tiensa@blaby.gov.uk 0116 272 7640