

Article 4 - The Mayor

Election of the Mayor

- 4.1 The Mayor is elected by the local government electors for the Combined Authority's Area.
- 4.2. The first election of the Mayor will take place on 1 May 2025. The subsequent election of the Mayor thereafter will take place in every fourth year after that on the same day as the ordinary day of election.
- 4.3 The term of office for a Mayor returned at an election for the return of a mayor for the Combined Authority Area in 2025, begins on 6 May 2025 and ends, subject to paragraph 4 (8) of the Order, with the third day after the day of the poll at the next election for the return of the Mayor for the Combined Authority Area.
- 4.4 The term of office for a Mayor returned at an election for the return of a mayor for the Combined Authority Area in each subsequent fourth year begins, subject to paragraph 4 (7) of the Order, with the fourth day after the day of the poll at the election of the Mayor; and ends, subject to paragraph 4 (8) of the Order, with the third day after the day of the poll at the next election for the return of the Mayor for the Combined Authority Area.

General

- 4.5 The Mayor is the Chair of the Combined Authority.

Deputy Mayor - Appointment and Term of Office

- 4.6 The Mayor must appoint one of the Combined Authority Members to be the Mayor's deputy (the Deputy Mayor).
- 4.7 The Mayor must notify the Monitoring Officer of any such appointment in writing. The Monitoring Officer shall report the appointment to the next meeting of the Combined Authority.
- 4.8 A person appointed as Deputy Mayor holds the office until the end of the Mayor's term of office, unless:
- the Mayor removes the person from office,
 - the person resigns as Deputy Mayor, or
 - the person ceases to be a Combined Authority Member.
- 4.9 The Mayor may remove a person from the office of Deputy Mayor at any time, subject to 4.12 below.
- 4.10 If a vacancy occurs in the office of Deputy Mayor, the Mayor must appoint another Combined Authority Member to be Deputy Mayor.
- 4.11 The Mayor must give written notice to the Monitoring Officer of any removal.

Incapacity or Vacancy in the Office of the Mayor

4.12 The Deputy Mayor must act in place of the Mayor if for any reason:

- the Mayor is unable to act, or
- the office of Mayor is vacant.

4.13 If for any reason:

- the Mayor is unable to act, or the office of Mayor is vacant, and
- the Deputy Mayor is unable to act or the office of Deputy Mayor is vacant,

the other Combined Authority Members must act together in place of the Mayor, taking decisions by a simple majority.

Mayoral Functions

4.14 The **Mayoral Functions** of the Combined Authority are functions of the Combined Authority exercisable only by the Mayor.

4.15 Mayoral Functions comprise the **Mayoral Functions**, see further Part 3 of the Constitution (responsibility for functions).

Mayoral Functions - Mayor's Arrangements

4.16 **Mayoral Functions** of the Combined Authority are exercised by the Mayor acting individually, or in accordance with arrangements made by the Mayor.

4.17 With the exception of any function reserved by law to the Mayor, the Mayor may arrange for any of the following to exercise any Mayoral Function:

- the Deputy Mayor,
- another Combined Authority Member, or
- an officer of the Combined Authority.

4.18 The Mayor may enter arrangements jointly with the Combined Authority, the Constituent Councils and other councils for the discharge of the Mayoral Functions.

4.19 The Mayor is **not** authorised by law to delegate a Mayoral Function to a committee of the Combined Authority.

4.20 Part 3 of the Constitution sets out the arrangements made by the Mayor in relation to Mayoral Functions.

4.21 The Mayor may make or amend the Mayor's arrangements for Mayoral Functions at any time. The Mayor must notify the Monitoring Officer of any arrangements or amendment in writing. The Monitoring Officer shall report any amendment to the next meeting of the Combined Authority.

Mayoral Decision-Making

- 4.22 The Mayor must comply with the Mayoral Procedure Rules in Part 4 and make decisions in accordance with the principles of decision-making set out in Article 13 (Decision-making).
- 4.23 Combined Authority Members and officers may assist the Mayor in the exercise of specified Mayoral General Functions.

Working Groups

- 4.24 The Mayor may appoint a working group to inform the development of strategic and policy matters which relate to any Mayoral Function. The Mayor cannot delegate authority to any working group to act on behalf of the Mayor nor on behalf of the Combined Authority.
- 4.25 The Mayor must provide details of the membership and terms of reference of any working group set up by the Mayor to the Monitoring Officer.

Conduct

- 4.26 The Mayor must comply with any applicable Code or Protocol set out in Part 5 of the Constitution, including the Members' Code of Conduct.

Remuneration

- 4.27 Any allowance payable to the Mayor shall not exceed a sum determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel - see further Article 3 (Membership of the Combined Authority). The Mayor's allowance is set out in the Members' Allowances Scheme in Part 6 of this Constitution.

Budget and Finance

- 4.28 The Mayor must comply with Part 4 of this Constitution including Budget and Policy Procedure Rules, Contracts Standing Orders and Financial Regulations; see further also Article 14 (Finance, Contracts and Legal matters).

Mayor's Political Adviser

- 4.29 The Mayor may appoint one person as the Mayor's Political Adviser.
- 4.30 The Mayor's Political Adviser shall be an employee of the Combined Authority and be regarded as holding a politically restricted post.