

EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL – 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

PART I

Suspension of Procedure Rules

Appointment of the Leader, Deputy Leader, and Lead Members

(ADLD)

1. Summary

- 1.1 Following the Council being in no overall control since the district by-election for the Abbots Langley & Bedmond Ward on 22 August 2024, it was necessary to convene an extraordinary Council meeting. This report asks Members to consider suspending the procedure rules in order to permit consideration of the appointment of the Leader, Deputy Leader, and Lead Members. The constitution seemingly restricts appointment to these roles to the annual general meeting. It is appropriate for Members to re-consider these appointments now the Council is in no overall control mid-way through the municipal year.

2. Details

- 2.1 Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure (Part 4) provide that any of the preceding Rules, with the exception of those parts comprising statutory requirements, may be suspended so far as regards any business at the meeting where its suspension is moved. Rule 32(2) states: 'A motion to suspend Rules shall not be moved without notice (i.e. under Rule 12) unless there shall be present at least two-thirds of the whole number of the Members of the Council.'
- 2.2 If Members vote in favour of suspending procedure rules, then under Rule 7 'Order of Business at Annual Council Meetings' Members may then consider either confirming the existing appointments (Annex 1) or appointing a new Leader or Deputy Leader, or some or all Lead Members.

3. Options and Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The options are to consider suspending the procedure rules and if suspended to confirm some or all of the existing appointments or vote on new appointments.

4. Policy/Budget Reference and Implications

- 4.1 There are no direct policy or budget implications.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 Full Council has discretion to decide whether to suspend the procedure rules providing there are present at least two-thirds of the whole number of the

Members of the Council. If the procedure rules are not suspended then constitutionally it seems it is not permissible to re-consider the appointment of the Leader, Deputy Leader, and Lead Members until the next annual general meeting in May 2025. If the procedure rules are suspended, then Members may choose to confirm some or all of the existing Members in these roles or appoint new Members into some or all of the roles.

7. Staffing Implications

7.1 There are no direct staffing implications.

8. Equal Opportunities Implications

8.1 There are no direct equal opportunities implications.

9. Climate Change and Sustainability Implications

9.1 There are no direct climate or sustainability implications.

10. Communications and Website Implications

10.1 If there are any changes to the Leader or Deputy Leader or Lead Members the website will be updated with the changes.

11. Risk and Health & Safety Implications

11.1 There are no risk or health & safety implications.

12. Recommendation to full Council:

- i) To consider suspending the procedure rules in accordance with rule 32 providing there are present at least two-thirds of the whole number of the Members of the Council.
- ii) If the procedure rules are suspended to confirm some or all of the existing appointments of the Leader, Deputy Leader or Lead Members or appoint new Members into some or all of the roles.

Report prepared by: Stephen Rix, Associate Director Legal & Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)

Data Quality

Data sources: NA

Data checked by:

Stephen Rix

Data rating:

1	Poor	
2	Sufficient	X
3	High	

Background Papers

None

Appendices

Annex 1 – Current appointments of Leader, Deputy Leader and Lead Members.