

Article 2. The Mayor

1. Election of a Mayor

- 1.1 The Mayor is elected by the local government electors for the Combined County Authority's Area.
- 1.2 The first election for the return of a Mayor for the Area took place on 2nd May 2024.
- 1.3 Subsequent elections for the return of a mayor for the Area are to take place:
 - (a) on the ordinary day of election in 2028, and
 - (b) in every fourth year thereafter on the same day as the ordinary day of election.
- 1.4 The term of office of the mayor returned at an election in 2024 for the return of a mayor for the Area:
 - (a) begins with 7th May 2024, and
 - (b) ends with the third day after the day of the poll at the next election for the return of a mayor for the Area
- 1.5 The term of office of the Mayor returned in each subsequent fourth year:
 - (a) begins with the fourth day after the day of the poll at the election for the return of the Mayor for the Area; and
 - (b) ends with the third day after the day of the poll at the next election for the return of the Mayor for the Area

2. General

- 2.1 The Mayor is the Chair of the Combined County Authority.

3. Deputy Mayor

- 3.1 The Mayor must appoint one of the constituent members of the Combined County Authority to be the Mayor's deputy (the Deputy Mayor).
- 3.2 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 County Authority.

4. Incapacity or Vacancy of the Mayor

- 4.1 The Deputy Mayor must act in place of the Mayor if for any reason:
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- the Mayor is unable to act, or
- the office of Mayor is vacant.

4.2 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 County Authority Members must act together in place of the Mayor, taking decisions by a simple majority

5. Mayoral Functions

5.1 The Mayoral Functions of the Combined County Authority are functions of the Combined County Authority exercisable only by the Mayor.

5.2 For the purposes of the exercise of the Mayoral Functions, the Mayor has the general powers of the CCA set out in section 49 of the 2023 Act

5.3 The Mayor may exercise the general powers referenced in 5.2 above subject to the restrictions which apply to the exercise of that power and after having due regard to advice from the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officers.

5.4 The Mayor may exercise their power under section 12 of the Automated and Electric Vehicle Act 2018 to ask the Secretary of State for Transport to make regulations under [Section 11 of the Automated and Electric Vehicle Act 2018](#) requiring large fuel retailers and service area operators to provide public charging points and to ensure public charging points are maintained and easily accessible. The power would be limited to large fuel retailers in the area within their authority.

6. Mayoral Decision-Making

6.1 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 8 (Decision-making).

7. Nominations to Portfolio Lead Member Responsibilities and to Committees

- 7.1 The Mayor and the Combined County Authority Board shall agree portfolio lead member and deputy portfolio lead member responsibilities in respect of the Combined County Authority functions.
- 7.2 The Mayor shall nominate the agreed portfolio lead member responsibilities and position to any member of the constituent councils on the Board, subject to any rules within the terms of reference of those committees.
- 7.3 The Mayor shall nominate the agreed deputy portfolio lead member responsibilities and position to any member of the constituent councils on the Board, or any District or Borough Councillor representative who is a non-constituent representative on the Board, subject to any rules within the terms of reference of those committees.
- 7.4 The nominations to portfolio lead member and deputy portfolio lead member responsibilities and the nominated membership and chairs of any thematic committees shall be reported to the Combined County Authority Board for formal approval by a simple majority vote which must include the Mayor.

8. Mayoral Advisory Groups (MAGs)

- 8.1 The Mayor may appoint a Mayoral Advisory Group to inform the development of strategic and policy matters which relate to any Mayoral General Function. The Mayor cannot delegate authority to any Mayoral Advisory Group to act on behalf of the Mayor nor on behalf of the Combined County Authority

9. Conduct

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

10. Remuneration

- 10.1 Any allowance payable to the Mayor shall not exceed a sum determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Mayor's allowance is set out in the Members' Allowances Scheme in **Part 6** of this Constitution.
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11. Budget and Finance

11.1 The Mayor must comply with the **Part 4** of this Constitution including Budget and Policy Procedure Rules, Contracts Standing Orders and Financial Regulations; see further also Article 9 (Finance, Contracts and Legal matters).

12. Mayoral Political Adviser

12.1 The Mayor may appoint one person as the Mayor’s political adviser. Any such appointment is an appointment as an employee of the Combined County Authority.

12.2 No appointment under paragraph 12.1 above may extend beyond:
(a) the term of office for which the Mayor who made the appointment was elected;
or
(b) where the Mayor who made the appointment ceases to be the Mayor before the end of the term of office for which the Mayor was elected, the date on which the Mayor ceases to hold that office

12.3 A person appointed under 12.1 above is to be regarded for the purposes of Part 1 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (political restriction of officers and staff) as holding a politically restricted post under a local authority.

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