

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Role and Function

- 1 To provide a focal point for political leadership and strategic direction for the Council.
- 2 To represent the interests of the Council in circumstances where that is necessary.
- 3 To ensure effective Corporate Governance.

Key Responsibilities

- 4 Be the political (rather than ceremonial) leader of the Council, for the benefit of all the County's communities - its citizens, taxpayers, businesses, public bodies and other public authorities.
- 5 Represent and pursue the interests of the Council in the community and at international, national and regional levels.
- 6 Be the key contact for outside organisations (including Central Government, Local Authority Associations and Council partners), and internally for the Council's Chief Officers.
- 7 Be the representative voice of the Council, for example, in its dealings with Central Government, other Local Authorities and their Associations, and positively promote the Council as a whole to the media.
- 8 Promote the long-term financial, business and economic stability of the Council and the County.
- 9 Meet regularly to progress the Council's objectives with Committee Chairmen, the Managing Director and Chief Officers, Leaders of other political groups on the Council, partner organisations, stakeholders, community representatives, government representatives, local Members of Parliament etc.
- 10 Promote high standards of corporate governance and ethical conduct throughout the Council including working with all political groups to seek to achieve, where possible, cross party co-operation.
- 11 Promote and maintain professional working relationships and mutual respect between all Members and officers.
- 12 Work across the Council, particularly with the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of its Committees and Sub-Committees, and to be responsible for the development and implementation of the Council's strategic vision for the future, policy framework, budgets and other strategies.

13 Act as Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, fulfil the role of Leader at full Council meetings and carry out as necessary the other functions specified in the constitution.

14 Act as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Economic Development Sub-Committee.