

Cabinet

Tuesday, 4 December 2018 at 2.00 pm

Meeting to be held: Committee Room, Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8QH

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SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA 2

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4. Appointment of Interim Mayor		1 - 6

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Subject: Appointment of Interim Mayor

Report of: Interim Monitoring Officer

Report Summary

This report recommends that Cabinet appoint an Interim Mayor.

Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended to appoint Mayor Norma Redfearn CBE as Interim Mayor.

1. Background information

- 1.1 At its meeting on 8 November, Cabinet received a report (now attached at Appendix 1) on the procedure to appoint an Interim Mayor to act until the Elected Mayor takes office in May 2019. Cabinet agreed the recommendations contained in that report, including the creation of an appointment panel (comprising Cllrs Daley, McCarty and Pickard) to consider eligible applications.
- 1.2. Following the meeting on 8 November all potentially eligible candidates were e-mailed regarding the position. Two applications were received prior to the deadline on 26 November 2018. The order makes clear that a person may only be appointed as Interim Mayor if he or she has been nominated by a member of NTCA's Cabinet. Therefore, the applications were circulated to Cabinet Members so that they could consider which applications they wished to nominate. Both applications received nominations and were referred to the appointments panel.

2 Appointment panel recommendation

- 2.1 The appointment panel met on 28 November to consider the applications on the basis of the evidence provided of their skills, knowledge and experience relevant to the following requirements of the post of the Interim Mayor:
 - understand the policy context and aims of NTCA;
 - effectively chair meetings of NTCA;
 - ensure appropriate decisions are made as to the operation of NTCA and the Investment Fund; and
 - participate in media coverage, public announcements and events relating to NTCA.

2.2 The appointment panel felt that both candidates were capable of being considered for the post. However, the panel agreed that, of the two candidates, Mayor Norma Redfearn CBE fully met all the relevant criteria, and clearly displayed the necessary qualities and relevant experience to make her the preferred candidate. In particular, the panel felt that, as she had been directly involved in the devolution process from the outset, she was able to demonstrate a proven track record in carrying out the requirements of the role. During this time, she had developed very positive working relationships with all relevant parties and had been a consistent and positive advocate for devolution. The panel therefore unanimously agreed to recommend to Cabinet that she should be appointed as Interim Mayor.

2.3 If the panel's recommendation is accepted, North Tyneside Council will need to appoint a new member (and substitute member) to the Cabinet.

3. Potential Impact on Objectives

3.1 The appointment of an Interim Mayor is a legal requirement of the order and will ensure that NTCA is fully operational.

4. Key Risks

4.1 None.

5. Financial and Other Resources Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The post of Interim Mayor does not receive any remuneration.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 The legal implications are set out in the body of this report.

7. Consultation/Engagement

7.1 All potentially eligible candidates were contacted individually regarding the position of Interim Mayor.

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Report to Cabinet on 8 November 2018.

9. Background Papers

None

10. Contact Officer

John Softly, Interim Monitoring Officer

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COMBINED AUTHORITY



Date: 8 November 2018
Subject: Process to appoint an Interim Mayor
Report of: Interim Monitoring Officer

Report Summary

This report sets out the process and timetable to appoint the Interim Mayor.

Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended to agree the process and timetable set out in this report, including the setting up of an ad hoc panel to consider the applications and make a recommendation to Cabinet.

1. Background information

- 1.1 The order which created the North of Tyne Combined Authority (“NTCA”) includes a requirement to appoint an Interim Mayor to act until the elected mayor takes office in May 2019. The appointment can only be made by NTCA after undertaking an application procedure in accordance with the order.
- 1.2. To be eligible to be appointed as Interim Mayor, the order provides that:
 - 1.2.1 the candidate must be resident in the area of any one of the constituent councils;
 - 1.2.2 the candidate must hold elected office as:
 - a. an elected mayor or elected member of a constituent council;
 - b. the Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner; or
 - c. a Member of Parliament or Member of the European Parliament with a constituency wholly or partly within the area of NTCA;

Appendix 1

1.2.3 the candidate must have submitted an application to NTCA for the position; and

1.2.4 the candidate must have been nominated by at least one Cabinet member.

1.3 Cabinet must decide who should be appointed as Interim Mayor by way of a simple majority vote. The Interim Mayor is to be an additional member of the Cabinet. Therefore, if the person appointed is already one of the Cabinet Members appointed by a constituent council, that constituent council may appoint another member to the Cabinet.

2. Application process

2.1 Subject to Cabinet's approval, the application process will be as set out below.

2.2 All eligible candidates will be contacted by e-mail on 8 November to notify them of the position and directed to a single bespoke e-mail address from which they can obtain further information and an application form.

2.3 All applicants must submit their completed application by noon on 26 November.

2.4 It is proposed that an ad hoc appointment panel (comprising one Cabinet member from each of the three constituent councils) be set up to consider the eligible applications received. In considering the applications, the panel will have regard to the need for the Interim Mayor to be able to:

- understand the policy context and aims of NTCA;
- effectively chair meetings of NTCA;
- ensure appropriate decisions are made as to the operation of NTCA and the Investment Fund; and
- participate in announcements and events relating to NTCA

2.5 Having considered the applications received, the panel will make a recommendation to the next meeting of the Cabinet on 4 December 2018.

3. Potential Impact on Objectives

3.1 The appointment of an Interim Mayor is a legal requirement of the order and will ensure that NTCA is fully operational.

4. Key Risks

4.1 None.

5. Financial and Other Resources Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 The legal implications are set out in the body of this report.

7. Consultation/Engagement

7.1 The proposed appointment process has been discussed with Cabinet members.

8. Appendices

None

9. Background Papers

None

10. Contact Officer

John Softly, Interim Monitoring Officer

john.softly@newcastle.gov.uk ,Tel 0191 2777047

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