

5TH MARCH, 2026

REPORT NO. DEM2602

SELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2026/27

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Report sets out the outcome of the selection process for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor 2026/27.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council has established a process and criteria for selecting the Mayor and Deputy Mayor which is adopted as part of the Council's Constitution. A copy of the criteria is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 In accordance with the procedure, the Managing Director wrote to all councillors in December 2025 to invite expressions of interest in the role of Deputy Mayor for 2026/27, progressing to the position of Mayor in 2027/28.

3. PROPOSALS FOR NOMINATIONS

- 3.1 Cllr Peter Cullum, who is currently the Deputy Mayor, has confirmed his wish to proceed through normal progression to the position of Mayor for 2026/27.
- 3.2 For the position of Deputy Mayor, Cllr Akmal Gani has expressed his interest in the mayoralty role and, from amongst those who submitted their interest, was the councillor who best met the criteria by order of seniority and eligibility. By May 2026, Cllr Gani will have served for 4 years having been elected to Fernhill Ward in 2022. He is standing for re-election in May, and in this way, it may be necessary to revisit the appointment following the elections.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Committee recommends to Council that:
- (i) Cllr P.J. Cullum be appointed as Mayor-Elect for the 2026/27 Municipal Year; and
 - (ii) Cllr A.H. Gani be appointed as Deputy Mayor-Elect for the 2026/27 Municipal Year.

**IAN HARRISON
MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**JILL SHUTTLEWORTH
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