

Report to: Annual Meeting of the Full Council - 19 May 2026

Leader of the Council: Councillor Paul Peacock

Director Lead: John Robinson, Chief Executive

Lead Officer: Nigel Hill, Business Manager – Elections & Democratic Services

Report Summary	
<b>Report Title</b>	Leader’s Appointment of Deputy Leader, Cabinet Members and Portfolio Holders
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To note the appointments of the Executive Leader of the Council
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Council:  a) note the appointments of the Executive Leader; and  b) approve an additional budget of £2,100 to be funded from the Corporate Contingency budget in relation to the creation of the new Corporate Services Portfolio.

## 1.0 Background

1.1 In accordance with Rule 1.1.2 (a) the Council is to receive a report from the Leader of the Council about Cabinet Member appointments and the Cabinet Scheme of Delegation.

1.1 Full Council are advised of the following appointments of the Executive Leader of the Council:

**Deputy Leader:**

Councillor Rowan Cozens

**Cabinet Members:**

Councillor Paul Peacock  
 Councillor Rowan Cozens  
 Councillor Simon Forde  
 Councillor Claire Penny  
 Councillor Lee Brazier  
 Councillor Susan Crosby  
 Councillor Paul Taylor  
 Councillor Peter Harris  
 Councillor Jack Kellas

### **Portfolio Holders:**

Strategy, Performance & Finance – Councillor Paul Peacock

Heritage, Culture & the Arts – Councillor Rowan Cozens

Climate & the Environment – Councillor Simon Forde

Sustainable Economic Development – Councillor Claire Penny

Housing – Councillor Lee Brazier

Health, Wellbeing & Leisure – Councillor Susan Crosby

Public Protection & Community Relations – Councillor Paul Taylor

Corporate Services – Councillor Peter Harris

- 1.2 Members will note that the Leader has established a new and additional Portfolio for Corporate Services which contains responsibilities that were previously within the Leader’s Portfolio. This additional capacity will support the Leader in being able to fully represent the interests of the Council as we enter new transition phases for Local Government Reorganisation.
- 1.3 The Cabinet Scheme of Delegation has been updated to reflect the new Portfolios, this is shown at **Appendix A** and will be updated in the Constitution.

### **2.0 Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

<b>Implications Considered</b>			
<b>Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable</b>			
Financial	Yes	Equality & Diversity	N/A
Human Resources	N/A	Human Rights	N/A
Legal	Yes	Data Protection	N/A
Digital & Cyber Security	N/A	Safeguarding	N/A
Sustainability	N/A	Crime & Disorder	N/A
LGR	N/A	Tenant Consultation	N/A

### **Financial Implications (FIN26-27/8808)**

- 3.1 As set out in the Report of the Members’ Allowances Independent Remuneration Panel, also included on this agenda, the base budget for 2026/27 is £142,980. Following the review, the budget required for existing Members is £135,430, leaving £7,550 available to support the proposal outlined in this report.

The cost of the additional Portfolio Holder (assuming a 3.5% increase – aligned to the staff pay award) is £9,650 for 2026/27, increasing the total budget requirement to £145,080. This results in an additional funding requirement of £2,100, which can be met from the 2026/27 Corporate Contingency budget.

### **Legal Implications (LEG2627/5413)**

- 3.2 The Local Government Act 2000 provides the framework for local authority Executives. The Act provides that the number of members of a Leader and Cabinet executive must not exceed 10.

The Leader of the Council has authority to determine Cabinet Member appointments, these should be reported to Council in accordance with the Constitution.

**Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None