A23. MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

23.1 Mayor

(i) The Mayor shall have precedence in the Borough, but not so as to prejudicially affect Her Majesty’s royal prerogative. The Mayor shall, unless the Council shall have decided otherwise represent or arrange the representation of the Council on all state, civic or formal occasions.

(ii) The Mayor shall, unless he or she resigns or becomes disqualified, continue in office until his or her successor becomes entitled to act as Mayor.

(ii) All members of the Council shall be eligible to stand for election as Mayor irrespective of membership or non-membership of any political group.

(iii) In the event of the Mayor resigning or becoming disqualified during his or her term of office a successor shall be appointed at the next ordinary meeting of the Council or at an extraordinary meeting convened for that purpose and shall continue in office for the remainder of his or her predecessor’s term of office. This period in office shall not preclude the successor from standing for election at the next following Annual Meeting.

23.2 Deputy Mayor

(i) The Deputy Mayor shall, unless he or she resigns or becomes disqualified, continue in office until his or her successor becomes entitled to act as Deputy Mayor.

(ii) All members of the Council shall be eligible to stand for election as Deputy Mayor irrespective of membership or non-membership of any political group but no member may stand for a second consecutive term as Deputy Mayor.

(iii) In the event of the Deputy Mayor resigning or becoming disqualified during his or her term of office a successor shall be appointed at the next ordinary meeting of the Council or at an extraordinary meeting convened for that purpose and shall continue in office for the remainder of his or her predecessor’s term of office. This period of office shall not preclude the successor from standing for election at the next following Annual Meeting.

(i) The Deputy Mayor shall assist the Mayor as requested and shall if necessary assist the Mayor in representing the Council on state, civic or formal occasions.
23.3 **Mayoress and Consort**

No-one may serve as mayoress and / or mayor’s consort whilst they are a member of the Council’s executive or the leader or deputy leader of a political group represented on the Council.

23.4 **Nature of the role**

The role of the Mayor (and Deputy Mayor) is strictly a non-political one and all councillors will respect the Mayor (and Deputy Mayor's) neutral position. For example, the Mayor (or Deputy Mayor) will maintain an apolitical stance when chairing Council meetings and will allow different opinions to be fully and fairly represented and debated subject to the requirements of these Procedure Rules.