

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING:	County Council
DATE:	8 September 2020
TITLE:	Election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Council
REPORT BY:	Lynn Ball, Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer (ext 2568) lbxcs@ynysmon.gov.uk
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To report on the procedure for the election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Council for 2020/2021
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1. Background

- 1.1 The election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council is a statutory requirement under sections 22, 23 and 24 of the [Local Government Act 1972](#).
- 1.2 As a result of the [Coronavirus Act 2020](#) and the current pandemic, Welsh Government has passed [The Local Authorities \(Coronavirus\) \(Meetings\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2020](#) (as amended).
- 1.3 Regulation 11 of [The Local Authorities \(Coronavirus\) \(Meetings\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2020](#) deals with "Election of chairs and vice-chairs of principal councils and community councils at annual meetings". This Regulation amends the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 **such that it reads as follows (underlined text is the wording included by the Regulations) -**

22 Chairman (*relevant part only*).

(1) The chairman of a principal council shall be elected annually by the council from among the councillors but if there is no election of a chair at the annual meeting of the council in 2020, the person holding office as chair immediately before the annual meeting of the council in 2020 may continue to hold office.

23 Election of chairman (*relevant part only*)

(1) The election of the chairman shall be the first business transacted at the annual meeting of a principal council unless, in relation to the annual meeting held in 2020, the council decides not to hold an election of a chair at that meeting.

(1A) A principal council that did not elect a chair at its annual meeting held in 2020 may hold an election of a chair at any time before the annual meeting held in 2021 (but not after 30 April 2021)

2. Proposal

2.1 Due to the provisions in the Regulations, there is no requirement to elect a new Chair / Vice-Chair at the Council's Annual Meeting for 2020.

2.2 A Council decision is required, at the Annual Meeting, so as to confirm that an election is not to be conducted for 2020.

2.3 Where no election is held, the current Chair will continue to hold office until the Annual Meeting in 2021 (unless an election is held before then).

2.4 It is recommended that the current Chair and Vice Chair continue in their roles so as to ensure continuity. It should also be noted that, at least for the foreseeable future, the roles of Chair and Vice Chair will likely be restricted to the conduct of meetings and any constitutional, rather than civic/ceremonial roles; such activities having been suspended for now.

3. Recommendation

3.1 Council is asked to confirm that an election to select a Chair and Vice Chair for the Council is not required and that the current Chair and Vice Chair of the Council will continue in their roles for an extended term until the Annual Meeting for 2021.