

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive & Director of Customer & Corporate Services

Portfolio of the Executive Member for Economic Development & Community Engagement

Lord Mayoralty 2017/18

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to ask the Executive to consider the points system for the annual nomination of the Lord Mayor for the City of York Council and confirm that the Group with the most points under that system should be invited to appoint the Lord Mayor for the coming municipal year, 2017/2018.

Recommendations

2. Members are asked to invite the Labour Group to nominate the Lord Mayor for 2017/2018, in line with the existing accumulated points system.

Reason: To ensure that the Council secures the necessary leadership to undertake its civic functions and provides continuity for future selection.

Background

3. Members will be aware that the system for nominating the Lord Mayor is based on an accumulation of points determined by the number of seats held by each particular group on the Council. The party having the largest cumulative total of points on Lord Mayor's Day each year is invited to nominate the Lord Mayor for the following year. A party loses 47 points when nominating the Lord Mayor. It should be noted that a nominee for Lord Mayor requires at least five years' service as a City of York Councillor.

4. Under the system, a party which loses all its seats on the City Council may have any accumulated points frozen until seats are once again gained by that party on the Council.
5. Under the current points system, the number of points accumulated by each party is as follows:

PARTY	POINTS ACCUMULATED AT AGM – MAY 2015	LOSS FOR LM	POINTS ACCUMULATED AT AGM – MAY 2016
Labour	18		$18 + 15 = 33$
Lib Dem	18		$18 + 12 = 30$
Green	28	- 47	$28 - 47 + 4 = -15$
Conservatives	8		$8 + 14 = 22$
Independent (Cllr Warters)	5		$5 + 1 = 6$
Independent (Cllr Hayes)	1		$1 + 1 = 2$

6. The above table shows that the Labour Group with a total of **33** points will qualify for the Lord Mayoralty in 2017/2018.
7. Traditionally, the Outgoing Lord Mayor assumes the mantle of Deputy Lord Mayor the following year.

Consultation

8. The political groups are aware that this is the process usually applied to select the mayoralty for the year ahead. Beyond this, there is no specific need for consultation.

Options

9. The options available for consideration are either to invite the Labour Group to nominate the Lord Mayor for the municipal year 2017/2018 or to consider reviewing the points system currently adopted for nominations.

Analysis

10. The nomination of a Lord Mayor is an annual event which is undertaken by way of a points system to ensure a fair and robust outcome. If Members wish to make changes to this process they would need to consider the development of a new process, which would require the approval of Council as a change to a previously agreed procedure.

Council Plan 2015-2019

11. The appointment of the Lord Mayor in York is a fundamental part of the city's continuing historic traditions. The role of Lord Mayor is firmly enshrined in the Council's Constitution, as an ambassador for the city and its cultural and economic ambitions. As such, the appointee will promote the Council's priorities in general but specifically will have the opportunity to promote a 'prosperous city for all'.

Implications

12. There are no specific direct implications in relation to financial, human resource, legal or equalities arising from the recommendations in this report, which is concerned with the process for and invitation to nominate for the appointment of a Lord Mayor.

Risk Management

13. The Lord Mayor is Chair of City of York Council and is second only to the Lord Mayor of London in precedence. Failure to appoint a Lord Mayor could have a significant impact on the Council's reputation in terms of maintaining its civic heritage.

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	Report Approved	√	Date 21/12/ 2016
Wards Affected: All			√
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Background Papers/Annexes: None