

Part One: Chapter 2 - Members of the Council

Composition

- 2.1 The Council has 31 members, known as councillors. Each councillor represents one of the wards in the Borough and is elected by the voters on the electoral roll for that ward, in accordance with a scheme drawn up by the former Local Government Commission (now Boundary Committee) and approved by the Secretary of State.

Eligibility

- 2.2 Only registered voters within the Borough area, or those living or working there, will be eligible to stand for election and hold the office of Councillor.

Election and terms of office of Councillors

- 2.3 Fareham's Councillors are elected half at a time; that is, 15 seats will be contested at one election and 16 seats at the next. The elections usually take place on the first Thursday in May, unless the Government legislates otherwise.
- 2.4 The term of office of each Councillor will be four years, starting on the fourth day after being elected and finishing after the date of the regular election four years later.
- 2.5 In the event of any person elected at the ordinary elections ceasing to be a Councillor, the Council shall declare a vacancy in accordance with the statutory provisions in force at that time. The term of office of the person elected to fill the vacancy shall be for the remainder of the period of office of the previous holder of that office of Councillor.

Roles and Functions of all Councillors

- 2.6 The roles and functions of all Councillors will be as set out in this Constitution. In undertaking these roles, Councillors are expected to maintain the highest standards of ethics and conduct and at all times to comply with the statutory provisions relating to the office of Councillor and the Council's Code of Conduct for Members in Part Five of this Constitution.
- 2.7 Councillors will have such rights of access to documents, information, land and buildings of the Council as are necessary for them to perform their functions properly, in accordance with the spirit and intent of this Constitution. Councillors will not make public, information that is confidential or exempt without the specific consent of the Council or divulge information given in confidence to any person other than a Councillor or Officer who is entitled to know it. For this purpose, 'confidential' and 'exempt' information is as defined in the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part Three of this Constitution.

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Conduct

- 2.8 Councillors will at all times observe the Council's Code of Conduct for Members set out in Part Five of this Constitution.

Allowances

- 2.9 Councillors will be entitled to receive allowances in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme set out in Part Five of this Constitution.

Membership of the Council, the Executive, Scrutiny Panels and Committees of the Council

- 2.10 The names and addresses of the Members of the Council are set out in Part Eight of this Constitution. That part of the Constitution also contains details of the membership of the Executive, all Panels and Committees of the Council.
- 2.11 The Monitoring Officer will be the Proper Officer responsible for maintaining this information.

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