

Minute

Special General Meeting of the Council

Tuesday, 20 February 2024, 09:00.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors Graham A Bevan, Stephen G Clackson, Alexander G Cowie, David Dawson, P Lindsay Hall, Steven B Heddle, Rachael A King, Kristopher D Leask, W Leslie Manson, James R Moar, Raymond S Peace, John A R Scott, Gwenda M Shearer, Gillian Skuse, Jean E Stevenson, Ivan A Taylor, Mellissa-Louise Thomson, Owen Tierney, Duncan A Tullock and Heather N Woodbridge.

Clerk

- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Legal and Governance.

In Attendance

- Oliver D Reid, Chief Executive.
- Stephen Brown, Chief Officer, Orkney Health and Social Care Partnership.
- Karen Greaves, Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions.
- Hayley Green, Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.
- Gareth Waterson, Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.
- James Wylie, Corporate Director for Education, Leisure and Housing.
- Hazel Flett, Service Manager (Governance).

Observing

- Kirsty Groundwater, Communications Team Leader.

Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

Chair

- Councillor Graham A Bevan, Convener.

1. Appointment of Leader

After consideration of a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions, copies of which had been circulated, the Council:

Noted:

1.1. That Councillor James W Stockan had resigned from the Council, with effect from 5 February 2024, thereby creating a vacancy for the role of Leader.

1.2. The process for appointment of officer bearers, as set out in section 4 of the joint report by the Chief Executive and the Corporate Director for Strategy, Performance and Business Solutions.

1.3. That, although Standing Orders stated that the Depute Leader shall hold office for two years and be eligible for re-election, the Council may, by resolution, determine that the term of office should extend to the next Local Government Election scheduled for May 2027.

The Convener called for nominations for the post of Leader, and the Council:

Resolved:

1.4. That Councillor Heather N Woodbridge be appointed Leader.

1.5. As the current Depute Leader had been appointed Leader, to appoint a Depute Leader, with the term of office being for the period to the next Local Government Election scheduled for May 2027.

The Convener thereafter called for nominations for the post of Depute Leader and, after a secret ballot, the result of which was as follows:

- Councillor Alexander G Cowie – 11 votes.
- Councillor Steven B Heddle – 9 votes.

The Council resolved:

1.6. That Councillor Alexander G Cowie be appointed Depute Leader, for the period to the next Local Government Election scheduled for May 2027.

1.7. That, as Councillor Alexander G Cowie, currently Chair of the Monitoring and Audit Committee, had been appointed Depute Leader, the Vice Chair, Councillor P Lindsay Hall, be appointed interim Chair of the Monitoring and Audit Committee for the period up to 14 May 2024.

2. Conclusion of Meeting

At 09:45 the Convener declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Graham A Bevan.