

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER, SPOKESPERSONS AND DEPUTY SPOKESPERSONS FOR 2020-21**Purpose**

1. To appoint Deputy Leaders, Spokespersons and Deputy Spokespersons to serve for the Council term 2020-2021.

Background

2. Section 10 of the WLGA Constitution¹ empowers the Council to appoint Senior Office Holders and Spokespersons at each Annual General Meeting:

10.3 The Council shall, at each Annual General Meeting of the Association, appoint a Deputy Leader or Deputy Leaders to support the work of the Leader of the Association.

10.4 The Council may appoint Spokespersons and such Deputy Spokespersons as are required with responsibility to promote the policies of the Association in specified policy areas. Spokespersons, on behalf of the Association, may undertake bilateral meetings with Welsh Government Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers, UK Government Ministers, represent the Association at committees of the Senedd or Parliament, chair meetings of cabinet member forums and fulfil the terms of reference of any relevant WLGA Advisory Group or sub-committee.

10.5 The Council will appoint Spokespersons so that the number of spokespersons appointed from each political group will so far as is possible reflects the political balance of the Council.

10.6 To ensure that a majority group, or coalition, on the Council can express a majority view if required, such majority group, or coalition, shall have the first choice in appointing Spokespersons.

10.7 Spokespersons may convene meetings of leading members and officers from each Member Council, and with relevant professional bodies to exchange information, inform and review Association policy and report to report back to the Association

3. Members are reminded that the political balance of the Council is declared at each Annual General Meeting of the Association.
4. Members have adopted a collective leadership model which has proven to be highly successful and effective way of working; this model allows the workload of the

¹ <http://wlga.wales/wlga-constitution>

leadership to be shared and thus the WLGA is able to field a consistent, experienced and full political team at key Welsh Government bi-lateral meetings, Partnership Council, Cabinet Members networks, Senedd Committees and Inquiries, and meetings with the Secretary of State for Wales and Members of Parliament. The Group Leaders have also met as a cross party forum for opinion and the facilitation of business.

5. The appointment of Deputy Spokespersons provides for responsibilities and workload to be shared and can provide experience at national level and allow succession planning for other WLGA members. Not all Spokespersons roles have previously incorporated deputy roles. Deputy Spokespersons can be appointed from the same or different groups and authorities as the Spokesperson, in order to appoint members with specific expertise, interests or wider geographical coverage where relevant.
6. The WLGA's AGM provides an opportunity to review both the Spokesperson roles as well as make changes to the post holders. For information, a list of the Spokespersons and Deputy Spokespersons to October 2021 is attached in **Appendix 1**; those known to be vacant posts are identified.

Recommendations

7. The Council is invited to:

7.1 Confirm the appointment of a Deputy Leader for the Council term 2020-21.

7.2 Agree the members to undertake the roles of Spokespersons and Deputy Spokespersons for the Council term 2020-2021.

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For Information

WLGA Spokespersons for the last Council Term to October 2020

Policy Area	Spokesperson	Deputy Spokesperson
Community Safety	Cllr Matthew Dorrance (Powys) - Labour	Vacant (not previously filled)
Culture, Sport and Tourism	Cllr Huw Thomas (Cardiff) - Labour	Cllr Peter Hughes Griffiths (Carmarthenshire)
Development Control and Planning	Cllr David Jenkins (Carmarthenshire) - Plaid Cymru	Cllr Ben Gray (Vale of Glamorgan) - Independent
Digital and Innovation	Cllr Peter Fox (Monmouthshire) - Conservative	Cllr Neil Prior (Pembrokeshire) - Independent
Economic Development, Europe and Energy	Cllr Rob Stewart (Swansea) - Labour	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Paul Miller (Pembrokeshire) - Labour 2. Cllr Rob Bevan (Rhondda Cynon Taf) - Labour 3. Vacant (not previously filled) 4. Vacant (not previously filled)
Education	Cllr Ian Roberts (Flintshire) - Labour	Cllr Ellen ap Gwynn (Ceredigion) - Plaid Cymru
Employability and Skills	Cllr Emlyn Dole (Carmarthenshire) - Plaid Cymru	Cllr Julian Thompson Hill (Denbighshire) - Conservative
Equalities, Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Susan Elsmore (Cardiff) - Labour <i>in a shared role with</i> 2. Cllr Mary Sherwood (Swansea) - Labour 	
Finance and Welfare Reform	Cllr Anthony Hunt (Torfaen) - Labour	Cllr Carol Clement-Williams (Neath Port Talbot) – Labour
Future Generations and Wellbeing	Cllr Llinos Medi (Isle of Anglesey) - Plaid Cymru	Cllr Ray Quant MBE (Ceredigion) - Independent
Health and Social Care	Cllr Huw David (Bridgend) - Labour	<p>ADULTS: Cllr Susan Elsmore (Cardiff) - Labour</p> <p>CHILDREN:</p>

		Vacant
Housing	Cllr Andrea Lewis (Swansea) - Labour	Cllr Nigel Smith (Conwy) - Independent
Improvement	Cllr Hugh Evans OBE (Denbighshire) - Independent	Cllr Ray Quant MBE (Ceredigion) – Independent
Public Health and Regulatory Services	Cllr Dafydd Meurig (Gwynedd) – Plaid Cymru	
Rural Affairs	1. Cllr Rosemarie Harris (Powys) - Independent <i>in a shared role with</i> 2. Cllr Dyfrig Siencyn (Gwynedd) - Plaid Cymru	Cllr Aled Davies (Powys) - Conservative
Transport, Environment and Sustainability	Cllr Andrew Morgan (Rhondda Cynon Taf) - Labour	WASTE: Cllr Ray Quant MBE (Ceredigion) - Independent
Welsh Language	Cllr Ellen ap Gwynn (Ceredigion) – Plaid Cymru	Vacant (not previously filled)
Workforce	Cllr Philippa Marsden (Caerphilly) – Labour	Cllr Maureen Webber (Rhondda Cynon Taf) – Labour
WLGA Representative on LGA Executive Advisory Board	Cllr Rob Stewart (Swansea) – Labour	N/A