

**NEW EXECUTIVE GOVERNANCE MODELS UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007**

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires the Council to give consideration to putting in place structures and initiatives that are intended to facilitate a greater connection between local communities and local government. In recognition of the importance of Council leadership, the Act requires all Councils to agree and implement a new leadership model. There are two choices for the new model;

- A directly elected Mayor with a four year term
- An indirectly elected Leader with a four year term

The key differences between the above options and the current arrangements are summarised on the table overleaf.

In both cases, all executive powers are delegated to the Mayor or Leader, who has responsibility for deciding how these powers will be discharged. This can be by themselves or by delegation, collectively or individually, to a Cabinet of between two and nine Members. The Cabinet is appointed by the Mayor or Leader from the Council.

Both options involve the appointment for up to a four year period. This is as a result of a desire for greater stability, over a longer period.

The new political arrangements outlined in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 is statutory and must be complied with. The timescale for consideration of the preferred options for this Council is 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.

**Timescale & Process**

- July 2009 – public consultation
- November-December 2009 – agreement by full Council on the final preferred option for the Council
- May 2010 – the new model to be implemented

<b>Options Available Under the Local Government &amp; Public Involvement in Health Act 2007</b>			
	<b>Current Leader and Cabinet Model</b>	<b>New “Strong Leader” and Cabinet Model</b>	<b>Elected Mayor and Cabinet Model</b>
<b>Appointment and term of office</b>	Leader appointed by Full Council annually	Leader appointed by Full Council for a 4 year term (or until the expiry of the Leader’s term of office as a Councillor)	Elected directly by the electorate for a 4 year term
<b>Removal</b>	Leader can be removed by resolution of the Council	Councils can choose to adopt procedures which would allow the removal of the Leader from office during the 4 year period by, for example, a decision	Cannot be removed during his/her term of office

		of the Council	
<b>Executive functions</b>	Full Council agrees the delegation of executive functions	All executive functions would be vested in the Leader who can then delegate	All executive functions would be vested in the Mayor who can then delegate
<b>Appointment of Cabinet</b>	Full Council appoints the Cabinet Members	Council appoints Leader who then appoints his/her Cabinet Members and allocates responsibility	Mayor appoints his/her Cabinet Members and allocates responsibility
<b>Deputy</b>	No legal requirement to have a Deputy Leader	Legal requirement to have a Deputy Leader	

Please email Liz Frier, the Head of Constitutional Services with your views on your preferred option at [elizabeth.frier@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth.frier@oldham.gov.uk).