

Article 5 – Chairing the Council

5.01 Role and function of the Mayor (Chair of the Council)

The Mayor and in his/her absence, the Deputy Mayor (who also bears the honorary and historic title of Sheriff) will have the following roles and functions:

(a) Ceremonial Role

- **First citizen.** The Mayor shall take precedence i.e. shall be the first citizen of the City of Gloucester.
- **Promotion of the city.** Together with the Leader, the Mayor will promote the City as a whole and act as a focal point for the community.
- **Ceremonial Matters.** The Mayor will decide what civic and ceremonial duties he/she and the Sheriff and Deputy Mayor will carry out.

(b) Chairing the Council Meeting

The Mayor shall be elected by the Council annually. The Mayor shall have the following responsibilities:

- (i) to uphold and promote the purposes of the Constitution, and to interpret the Constitution when necessary;
- (ii) to preside over meetings of the Council so that its business can be carried out efficiently and with regard to the rights of Councillors and the interests of the community;
- (iii) to ensure that the Council meeting is a forum for the debate of matters of concern to the local community and the place at which Members who are not in the Cabinet are able to hold the Cabinet to account;
- (iv) to promote public involvement in the Council's activities;
- (v) to be the conscience of the Council.