

APPENDIX D

GROUP LEADER

The Elected mayor is the first citizen of the Town, however the Council recognises the key leadership role played by the leaders of all political groups on the Council and the importance of their commitment to cross-party working.

Role and Responsibilities

- 1 To provide the leadership of a political group providing formal effective, positive and constructive opposition to the Council's Mayor, majority party, and opposition, including the scrutiny of the political administration and policies of the Council.
- 2 Notwithstanding Political differences promote Middlesbrough as a place and Middlesbrough Council, ensuring group Members act in a similar manner.
- 3 To be the principal political spokesperson for the political group.
- 4 Advise the Mayor of the Council of the group's position on issues.
- 5 To encourage the highest standards of conduct by members of the group and promote compliance with the Members Code of Conduct.
- 6 To nominate members to serve on Committees, Working Groups, outside bodies etc.
- 7 To allocate other responsibilities to group members as appropriate.
- 8 Represent the group on relevant formal and informal working groups.
- 9 To assist in ensuring appropriate levels of attendance are maintained by group members.
- 10 Promote effective communication between party group members, other political groups and officers and ensure that communications are conducted in a courteous and respectful manner and ensuring group members do the same.
- 11 To establish and maintain effective working relationships with, Chief Officers and other senior officers and to meet them regularly in order to keep fully appraised of relevant service issues.
- 12 To encourage a culture of learning and development among members, including the active participation of group members in briefings, seminars and other learning and development processes.