

Article 5 – Chairing the Council

5.01 Role and function of the Mayor

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be elected by the Council annually. The Mayor and in his/her absence, the Deputy Mayor, will have the following responsibilities:

1. to uphold and promote the purposes of the Constitution, and to interpret the Constitution when necessary;
2. to preside impartially 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;
3. 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 on the executive are able to hold the executive to account.
4. to promote public involvement in the Council's activities.
5. to attend such civic and ceremonial functions as the Council or he/she determines appropriate.
6. to be the first citizen of Sunderland.