

4 How the Council makes decisions

Full Council

All **Councillors** meet together a number of times each year as the **Full Council**. You can find details of the calendar of [Full Council meetings](#) on the Council's website. Annual Full Council appoints a Mayor and Deputy Mayor who preside over the Full Council meeting, perform the Council's civic role and represent the Council in the community.

The Full Council is responsible for setting the **Budget and Policy Framework**. The **Budget and Policy Framework** sets out the Council's key policies and agreed budget for each year. All decisions must be taken in accordance with these agreed documents. Only Full Council can change the **Budget and Policy Framework**. Full Council sets the Council's budget each year.

The Full Council also appoints a number of committees to deal with regulatory functions such as Planning and Licensing. See details of the [Council's Committees](#).

Meetings of the Council and other decision-making bodies are open to the public, except where personal or confidential matters are being discussed (see Access to Information Standing Orders in **Part 3**).

Structure of the Council

The decision-making structure of the Council can be found in Part Two Responsibility for Functions

The Executive (Cabinet)

The Council has adopted an “**executive**” form of governance. This means that the Full Council appoints a **Leader** of the Council. The Leader then appoints a minimum of 2 and no more than 9 other Councillors who, together with the Leader, form the **Cabinet** and are responsible for certain decisions such as policy matters (including recommending the **Budget and Policy Framework**), housing, land and property and economic regeneration.

Councillors that are not part of the Cabinet are largely responsible for the scrutiny of executive decisions. Non-Cabinet Councillors may sit on the [Council's Committees](#).