

THE MORAY COUNCIL

COUNCILLOR'S ROLE DESCRIPTION

COUNCIL LEADER

ROLE DESCRIPTION

The responsibilities of the Leader of the Council transcend those of individual members of the Council – and the particular service responsibilities of other individual Chairs – and extend to corporate responsibility for the vision, policies, strategies and consequent decisions of the whole Council.

From this flows the following particular aspects of the role of the Leader of the Council.

NATURE AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE ROLE

- The Leader of the Council requires to ensure that the Council develops and maintains a vision for the whole of Moray and exercises leadership in all decision making processes of or affecting Moray Council to ensure that decisions are taken in light of and with a view to contributing to the attainment of that vision.
- The Leader of the Council will normally act as the primary representative of and spokesperson for the Council and promote, both within and outwith the Council, the Council's vision for Moray and the policies and programmes adopted by the Council in pursuance of that vision. In that respect the Leader will endeavour to maintain a good working relationship with the Civic Head of the Council (if such a post holder is appointed) in relation to their respective roles.
- The Leader of the Council co-ordinates the work of all Chairs within the Council to ensure the corporate effectiveness of the Council as whole and, in particular, to ensure that the exercise of all powers of the Council and delivery of all of the services for which the Council is responsible best contributes to the corporate objectives of the Council.
- The Leader of the Council also has particular responsibility with regard to the Council's role of community leadership for the whole of Moray. It is the responsibility of the Leader of the Council to oversee effective relationships with partner organisations, especially in relation to the Community Planning Partnership.
- The Leader of the Council will take advantage of the right to secure advice from senior officers of the Council, most commonly through the Chief Executive, to maintain the chain of communication.

- The Leader of the Council will represent the Council at meetings of the leaders of the 32 Scottish Authorities at the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA). The leader will also represent the Council at other external meetings as required.
- The Leader of the Council has a particular role in the promotion of an inclusive working environment involving all members of the Council and in developing and encouraging effective working relationships among councillors and between councillors and officers.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

The responsibility of all members of Moray Council to maintain the highest standards of conduct apply particularly to the Leader of the Council, it being acknowledged that the Leader of the Council is in a unique position, through his/her conduct, to provide an example to all other members of the Council and to enhance the reputation both within and outwith Moray of the Moray Council.