

**THE MORAY COUNCIL**

**COUNCILLOR'S ROLE DESCRIPTION**

**THE LEADER OF THE LARGEST OPPOSITION GROUP**

**ROLE DESCRIPTION**

The responsibilities of the Leader of the main opposition group transcend those of individual members of the Council – and the particular service responsibilities of individual Chairs – and extend to a corporate responsibility holding to account the vision, policies, strategies and consequent decisions of the Council.

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

**NATURE AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE ROLE**

- The Leader of the main opposition group requires to hold the Administration of the Council to account to ensure that the Council 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 main opposition group will normally act as the group's primary representative and spokesperson. The post holder will endeavour to maintain a good working relationship with the Leader of the Council
  - The Leader of the main opposition group will hold to account the corporate effectiveness of the Council as a whole and, in particular, the exercise of all the powers of the Council and delivery of all the services for which the Council is responsible to ensure they best contribute to the corporate objectives of the Council.
  - The effectiveness of relationships with partner organisations.
  - The Leader of the main opposition group will take advantage of the right to secure advice from senior officers of the Council, most usually through the Chief Executive to maintain the chain of communication. In particular, the Leader of the main opposition group will require to maintain a good working relationship with the Chief Executive in issues associated with the organisation and management processes of the Council and also 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 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 main opposition group, it being acknowledged that this post holder along with the Leader and Civic Head of the Council is in a unique position, through their 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.