



Council – 25 January 2021

Request to Transfer Chains of Office to North Northamptonshire Council

Purpose of report

Council is asked to consider a request from the Shadow North Northamptonshire Executive to transfer the East Northamptonshire Council Chains of Office to the new Council.

Attachment:

Appendix 1 – Letter on behalf of North Northamptonshire Shadow Executive

1.0 Background

- 1.1 A request has been received from the North Northamptonshire Shadow Executive as to whether East Northamptonshire Council (ENC) would be willing to transfer its chains of office to the new North Northamptonshire Council (Appendix 1).

2.0 Chains of Office

- 2.1 The Civic Functions Task and Finish Group of the North Northamptonshire Shadow Authority has recently considered the future civic and ceremonial arrangements for the new North Northamptonshire Council. It reported to the Shadow Executive on 26 November 2020, where it was resolved to allow for the annual election of a Chairman and Deputy Chairman by the new Council. These two offices would be invested with a chain of office.
- 2.2 It is assumed that all of the Mayoral insignia currently in use by Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough will be transferred to successor Town Councils. As such, ENC has now been approached to establish if we would be willing to transfer our three chains of office to the new Council for re-use by them. The three chains of office are Chairman, Chairman's Consort and Vice Chairman. It would be necessary to replace the insignia within the chains to reflect the change of council and this would be at the expense of the new Council. The work required to re-purpose the chains would not take place until after 1 April 2020 when the current Chairman, deputy Chairman and Chairman's Consort terms of office have concluded.
- 2.3 As the chains currently in use by ENC were inherited from the former Rushden Urban District Council, Rushden Town Council have also been written to seeking their consent to this transfer. The Clerk of Rushden Town Council has advised that at a meeting of the Town Council in December 2020 it was resolved that they would like the original Rushden Urban District Council chains returned to them so they can be retained as part of Rushden's civic history.
- 2.4 The Council is now asked to consider whether it is willing to transfer the chains of office to the new Council.

3.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

3.1 There are no equality and diversity implications.

4.0 Privacy Impact Implications

4.1 There are no privacy impact implications.

5.0 Health Impact Assessments

5.1 There are no health impact implications.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications arising from these proposals.

7.0 Risk Management

7.1 There are no significant risks arising from these proposals.

8.0 Resource and Financial Implications

8.1 There would be no resource or financial implications arising from these proposals.

9.0 Constitutional Implications

9.1 There are no constitutional implications arising from these proposals.

11.0 Implications for our Customers


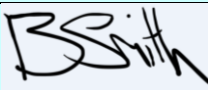
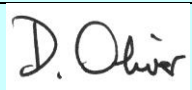
11.1 There are no constitutional implications arising from these proposals.

12.0 Recommendation

12.1 The Council is recommended to:

- (1) Consider whether it supports the request from the North Northamptonshire Shadow Executive to transfer its chains of office for repurposing and use by the new North Northamptonshire Council.

(Reason – To support the establishment of the new North Northamptonshire Council).

Legal	Power:				
	Other considerations:				
Background Papers:					
Person Originating Report: Ben Smith, Democratic and Electoral Services Manager ☎ 01832 74(2113) ✉ bsmith@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk					
Date: 11 January 2021					
CFO 14/01/21		MO (Deputy) 14/01/21		CX 14/01/21	



Cllr Helen Howell
Chairman
East Northamptonshire Council

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Our Ref:
Date: 30 November 2020

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Dear Cllr Howell

EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CHAIRMAN'S CHAINS OF OFFICE

I am writing to you on behalf of the North Northamptonshire Shadow Executive, which, at its meeting on the 26th November, received a report from a member task and finish group on arrangements for the chairmanship of the new Council.

The proposal agreed by the Shadow Executive is that the persons appointed as chairman and deputy chairman of the new Council should be provided with chains of office indicating their position.

Most current "Mayoral" chains of office will be notated over to successor Town Councils in Corby, Wellingborough and Kettering, but, to avoid the expense of commissioning a new set of chains, I was authorised to ask whether East Northamptonshire Council would be willing to transfer its chains of office over to the new Council, for re-use by the new unitary Council. It would be necessary to replace the insignia within the chains, of course, an expense that would be borne by the new Council. The old insignia would be retained as an historical artefact, for display if desired. If achievable, transfer could be effected in time for the first Annual Meeting of the new unitary council in May 2021.

I am aware that the chains in use by ENC were inherited from the former Rushden Urban District Council, so I am also writing to Rushden Town Council, to secure their consent to this transfer as well.

I hope that your authority will support this transfer, and take some comfort from the fact that the jewellery curated by East Northamptonshire and before that, Rushden, for so many years, will find new life serving the whole of North Northamptonshire, for many more years to come.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Martin Hammond
for and on behalf of
North Northamptonshire Shadow Executive

copy: David Oliver, Chief Executive, East Northamptonshire Council