

## **Constitutional Guidance on Election of Chair/Vice-Chair for Area Boards: Taken from Part 3 of the Wiltshire Council Constitution**

- 4.9 The chairman and vice-chairman of an area board will be appointed at the first meeting of an area board, which takes place after the annual meeting of the Council, by the unitary councillors on each area board, except in an election year where after the first meeting of Full Council a special meeting of each area board will take place to appoint a chairman and a vice-chairman.
- 4.9.1 The Democratic Services representative will call for nominations for the position of chairman of the area board. A councillor's nomination must be seconded to be valid. A councillor shall not be nominated in his/her absence without their written consent.
- 4.9.2 In the event of only one valid nomination being received the person presiding will declare the nominated councillor elected.
- 4.9.3 In the case of two valid nominations the Democratic Services representative will ask for a show of hands from those councillors in favour of each councillor and declare the candidate receiving the majority of votes of the councillors present and voting, to be the winner.
- 4.9.4 In the case of an equality of votes for the two candidates, the Democratic Services representative shall draw lots to determine the winner of the election and then declare the result.
- 4.9.5 In the case of three or more valid nominations being made, the Democratic Services Representative will call for a show of hands for each of the candidates. The Democratic Services representative will then announce the candidate with the least number of votes and that candidate will be eliminated (in the case of a tie for the least number of votes, the Democratic Services representative shall draw lots to determine which candidate to be eliminated). A further vote shall be taken for the remaining candidates and after each vote the candidate with the least number of votes shall be eliminated until only two candidates remain and a final vote taken.
- 4.9.6 The newly elected Chairman of the Area Board shall then preside over the election of the Vice Chairman in the manner described above with the ability to use a casting vote in the event of an equality of votes.
- 4.9.7 With the exception of an election year, the chairman and vice-chairman of an area board shall remain in post until their successors are appointed.