

## Chair of Policy Forum

<b>Name of Committee</b>	National Park Authority
<b>Date</b>	24 September 2021
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<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To note the appointment of the Chair of Policy Forum
<b>Single Integrated Assessment</b>	Not applicable
<b>List of Enclosures</b>	<b>Enclosure 1: Case for Appointment – Cllr Graham Thomas</b>
<b>Public Interest Test</b>	N/A
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>a) To note the appointment of Cllr Graham Thomas as Chair of Policy Forum until the next Annual General Meeting of the Authority;</b> <b>b) To decide whether the Authority wishes to carry out a nomination process for the post of Deputy Chair, in line with Standing Orders.</b>

### 1. Introduction or Background

Following the decision not to appoint a Chair of Policy Forum at the Annual General Meeting officers were asked to carry out a further process of seeking nominations. This was done in line with Standing Orders and one nomination was received, from Cllr Graham Thomas.

### 2. Proposals

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the appointment of Cllr Thomas as Chair of Policy Forum until the next Annual General Meeting of the Authority.
- 2.2 Cllr Thomas has sought advice from officers on whether he needs to resign from his current role as Deputy Chair prior to this Authority meeting. The Monitoring Officer has provided the following guidance on this.

*The appointment of a member to the role of Deputy Chair or Chair of Policy Forum of the Authority is set out in paragraph 8 of Standing Orders, "Appointments by the Authority".*

*The Standing Orders are silent on whether a Deputy Chair must formally resign when he/she becomes Chair.*

*Paragraph 8.15 states "Any nomination for Deputy Chair of the Authority ...or a forum shall be deemed to be withdrawn if the member candidate is elected as the Chair..."*

*There is an argument that says by analogy no formal resignation is required, i.e., by becoming the Chair of Policy Forum, the member automatically ceases to be Deputy Chair. However, there is nothing to prevent the Deputy Chair from acknowledging that by reason of his being Chair he is no longer eligible to hold the position of Deputy Chair which he has now vacated-this seems to be a transparent way to record the process.*

### **3. Implications**

Members are asked to consider whether they wish to seek nominations for the position of Deputy Chair at this time, in which case the full nomination process will be carried out.

### **4. Risk**

This appointment fulfils business not completed at the Annual General Meeting.

### **1.5 Conclusion**

Members are asked to note the appointment and advise officers what they wish to do with regard to the post of Deputy Chair of Policy Forum.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- a) To note the appointment of Cllr Graham Thomas as Chair of Policy Forum until the next Annual General Meeting of the Authority;**

**b) To decide whether the Authority wishes to carry out a nomination process for the post of Deputy Chair, in line with Standing Orders.**