



**PROTOCOL TO GUIDE MEMBERS WHEN ELECTING THE
MAYOR/APPOINTING THE DEPUTY MAYOR (MAIDSTONE)**

1. Other than in exceptional circumstances, the Mayor should first have held the post of Deputy Mayor in the year preceding the Mayoral election and that in those exceptional circumstances (where the Mayor has not been the Deputy Mayor) the election of the Mayor should be made on the same basis as that for the appointment of Deputy Mayor.
2. That the most Senior Member of the Council as set out in the order of seniority by length of service of Members who has not previously held the office of Mayor, and who wishes to take up that office should be appointed to the position of Deputy Mayor.
3. That at the penultimate ordinary meeting of the Council of the Municipal Year the Mayor select and Deputy Mayor select should be chosen. If, following discussions, there is more than one Member with the same seniority (ignoring ranking according alphabetical order) wishing to be Deputy Mayor, the Mayor shall draw lots and advise Members of the outcome to guide them when casting their votes.
4. This protocol will come into effect for the election of the Mayor for the Municipal Year 2007/08 and the appointment of the Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2006/7.