



Working in partnership with **Eastbourne Homes**

Petitioning for an elected Mayor

The Local Government Act 2000 allows you to petition your council to hold a referendum on whether local people should elect a mayor to lead the council. This is conducted under the Local Authorities (Referendums) (Petitions and Directions) (England) Regulations 2011.

What is our current arrangement?

For each local authority there is an executive. Depending on the local arrangements, the executive is organised in one of three ways:

- a directly elected mayor and a cabinet of councillors; or
- a leader elected by the council and a cabinet of councillors; or
- a directly elected mayor and a council manager appointed by the council.

We have a leader, elected by the council and a cabinet of councillors.

What is a directly elected mayor?

A directly elected mayor is elected by all the voters in the council's area to be the head of the council's decision-making body. A directly elected mayor should not be confused with the ceremonial mayor.

Why is a referendum necessary?

The introduction of a directly elected mayor is a significant constitutional change and so a referendum is held to give all voters in the area a chance to choose if they would want this to happen. In order to call a referendum for a directly elected mayor, a petition must be compiled which is signed by 5% of the number of local government electors that are shown in the current Register of Electors. This 5% figure is called the 'verification figure' and is published annually as a formal notice below:-



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Borough of Eastbourne

The Local Authority (Referendums) (Petitions & Directions) (England) Regulations 2000

Publication of Verification Number

In accordance with Regulation 4(1) of the above regulations the number that is equal to 5% of the number of local government electors shown in the revised register of electors having effect on the 15 February 2018 is:

3,762

This figure will have effect for the purposes of determining the validity of Petitions presented from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

The above number will apply to any petition submitted to the Borough Council before 1 April 2020. However, a new number will be published in February 2020 and if the new number is less than 3762, then the new number will apply from the date it is published.

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Dated: 15th February 2019