

Report of	Meeting	Date
Chief Executive (Introduced by Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform))	Council	Wednesday, 20 April 2022

Appointment of Chief Executive

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	Not applicable
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Purpose of the Report

- To propose to Members the appointment of a new Chief Executive, shared with Chorley Council.

Recommendations to Council

- That following a meeting of the Shared Services Joint Committee Appointments Panel on 25 March 2022, Chris Sinnott be appointed as the Council's new Shared Chief Executive with effect from 1 January 2023.
- That the new Shared Chief Executive also undertakes the statutory role of Head of Paid Services and is the Council's Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer.

Reasons for recommendations

- The Council has committed to the creation of a permanent Shared Chief Executive post.
- The Shared Services Joint Committee Appointments Panel agreed unanimously that Chris Sinnott be recommended to Council for formal appointment.

Other options considered and rejected

- Not to fill this this post, which would leave the Council without a Head of Paid Services which is required by legislation.

Corporate priorities

7. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

An exemplary council	Thriving communities
A fair local economy that works for everyone	Good homes, green spaces, healthy places

Background to the report

8. The post of Shared Chief Executive was created in November 2020 as a permanent post between the two councils at a total cost of £145,000 shared 50:50.
9. The shared Chief Executive is the Council's Head of Paid Services, the Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer.
10. The current postholder, Gary Hall, accepted the position on a fixed term basis until 31 December 2022. Following his departure, the post will be vacant.
11. As agreed by Council, recruitment to the position commenced on 28 February 2022.
12. The full selection process as presented and agreed by Council was undertaken by the candidate:

Forum	Attendees
Stakeholder Panel	Gary Crowe (Superintendent Lancashire Police) Diane Gradwell (Chief Executive Lancashire West Citizens Advice) Clare Russell (Principal and CEO Runshaw College)
Staff Panel	Members of Employee Voice/Staff Matters and wider volunteers
1-2-1 meetings with the Leader of each Council	Cllr Alistair Bradley Cllr Paul Foster
Technical Interview with another CEO	Tony Oakman – Bolton Council
Shared Services Appointment Panel	Shared appointments committee NW Employers

13. Feedback at all stages of the selection process was very positive, and the view of internal and external stakeholders was that the candidate was suitable for the role.
14. Following a full interview by the Shared Services Joint Committee Appointments Panel, and consideration of the feedback from the assessment centre, the panel agreed unanimously that Chris Sinnott be recommended to Council for appointment as Shared Chief Executive.

Climate change and air quality

15. The work noted in this report does not impact the climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda and all environmental considerations are in place.

Equality and diversity

16. The recruitment process has been undertaken in accordance with the agreed Recruitment, Selection, and On-boarding policy and there are no equality implications requiring consideration.

Risk

17. There are no outstanding risks to Council agreeing this appointment. Failure to appoint a Chief Executive would introduce significant risks to the Council.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

18. The budget for the Chief Executive post is within the approved Council budget.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

19. The proposed appointment has been brought forward following council policies and procedures. The appointment to the role of chief executive is a council decision and it is proper this decision is made by full council.

There are no background papers to this report.

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