

# GUILDFORD & WAVERLEY JOINT SENIOR STAFF COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 JULY 2024

### Present:

Councillor Julia McShane, Leader, Guildford Borough Council: co-Chair  
Councillor Jane Austin, Waverley Borough Council  
Councillor Philip Brooker, Guildford Borough Council  
Councillor Tony Fairclough, Waverley Borough Council  
Councillor Liz Townsend, Waverley Borough Council  
Councillor Fiona White, Guildford Borough Council (in the chair)

### In attendance:

Pedro Wrobel, Joint Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service  
Jon Formby, HR Manager, WBC  
John Armstrong, Democratic Services & Elections Manager, GBC

### Action By

#### 6. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MEETING**

In the absence of one of the co-chairs and having taken into consideration that the other co-chair, who was present, but whose voice was affected by a recent illness, the Joint Senior Staff Committee

RESOLVED: That Councillor Fiona White be appointed as chair of the JSSC for this meeting.

#### 7. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Paul Follows, for whom Councillor Liz Townsend substituted.

#### 8. **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

#### 9. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

The Joint Senior Staff Committee (JSSC)

RESOLVED:

- (1) That pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 4 on the agenda on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information (as defined by Section 100I of the Act) of the description specified in Paragraph 1 of the revised Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act namely: 'Information relating to any individual'.
- (2) That the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**10. APPOINTMENT OF JOINT STRATEGIC DIRECTOR FOR HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT**

Following the departure of Annie Righton, the search for a permanent appointment had been carried out with Penna.

The Joint Senior Staff Committee (JSSC) considered a report setting out details of the recruitment campaign and selection process, which had led to the shortlisting of four candidates for final interviews by the JSSC. The JSSC noted that one of the candidates had withdrawn from the process.

The JSSC had been convened for the purpose of conducting the final interviews of shortlisted candidates and, where appropriate, to make a formal offer of appointment, which would be subject to no material or well-founded objection being made by either of the two Council Leaders on behalf of their respective Executives in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 1 to the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 ("the 2001 Regulations").

Following the interviews, the JSSC unanimously

RESOLVED:

Jon

That, subject to no material or well-founded objection being made by either of the two Council Leaders on behalf of their respective Executives, Julian Higson be appointed to the Joint Strategic Director for Housing, Communities and Environment post.

Reason:

To appoint a Joint Strategic Director for Housing, Communities and Environment, as part of the agreed collaboration arrangements between Guildford and Waverley Borough Councils.

DRAFT