



Minutes of a meeting of the Employment Committee

At 7.00 pm on Wednesday 26th January, 2022 in the Council Chamber, Swanspool House, Wellingborough

Present:-

Members

Councillor Scott Brown
Councillor William Colquhoun
Councillor Emily Fedorowycz
Councillor Matt Keane
Councillor Lora Lawman

Councillor Jan O'Hara
Councillor Barbara Jenney
Councillor Tom Partridge-Underwood
Councillor Matt Binley
Councillor Helen Howell

Officers

Adele Wylie – Director of Governance
and HR
Ben Smith – Democratic and Electoral
Services Manager

1 Election of Chair

Councillor Barbara Jenney was nominated by Councillor Helen Howell and seconded by Councillor Lora Lawman to be chair of the Employment Committee.

Councillor Jenney was unanimously elected.

RESOLVED:-

That Councillor Barbara Jenney be elected as chair of the Employment Committee for the remainder of the municipal year ending in May 2022.

Councillor Barbara Jenney – in the chair

2 Election of Vice Chair

Councillor Matt Binley was nominated by Councillor Helen Howell and seconded by Councillor Lora Lawman to be vice-chair of the Employment Committee.

Councillor Binley was unanimously elected.

RESOLVED:-

That Councillor Matt Binley be elected as vice-chair of the Employment Committee for the remainder of the municipal year ending in May 2022.

3 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tom Partridge-Underwood, Councillor Russell Roberts and Councillor Jason Smithers (Councillor Helen Howell substituting).

4 Members' Declarations of interest

The Chair invited those who wished to do so to declare interests in respect of items on the agenda.

No declarations were made.

5 Selection and Appointment for Director of Public Health and Executive Director of Children's Services

The Director of Governance and HR introduced a report seeking to appoint two sub-committees to undertake the recruitment and selection process for the role of Director of Public Health and the role of Executive Director of Children's Services. A copy of the report was filed with the agenda papers, marked as item 5.

Arising from discussion it was noted that:-

- i) It was proposed that partners, stakeholders and members all play a role in helping to select the best candidates for the roles;
- ii) The appointment sub-committee for the Executive Director of Children's Services would be responsible for selecting and appointing the successful candidate;
- iii) The appointment sub-committee for the Director of Public Health would be responsible for selecting and recommending the successful candidate, with the final ratification being given by the UK Health Security Agency;
- iv) member appointment to the sub-committees would be politically balanced but could be drawn from beyond that of the Employment Committee membership.

The Chair wished to record, on behalf of all members of the Committee, her thanks to Lucy Wightman and Cathi Hadley for their outstanding commitment to the Council during its transitional period, and to give best wishes for their future.

RESOLVED:-

- a) That the processes specified in paragraphs 5.1-5.12 of the report be approved;
- b) That a politically balanced Sub Committee be established consisting of seven elected members to shortlist, interview and appoint to the Director of Public Health;
- c) That a politically balanced Sub Committee be established consisting of seven elected members to shortlist, interview and appoint to the Executive Director of Children's Services;
- d) That membership of each Sub Committee shall consist of 5 Conservative members, 1 Labour member and 1 Green Alliance member.

e) That authority be delegated in respect of the recruitment for the Executive Director of Children's Service to the relevant Sub Committee to:

- Shortlist and interview suitably qualified applicants.
- Appoint the most suitable person for the position.

f) That authority be delegated in respect of the recruitment for the Director of Public Health to the relevant Sub Committee to:

- Shortlist and interview suitably qualified applicants.
- Recommend the most suitable person for the position, with final approval being provided by the UK Health Security Agency.

(Reasons for Decisions - To ensure to ensure that a comprehensive, inclusive and thorough recruitment and selection process is undertaken, in accordance with the constitution, to ensure that the right candidates are selected for these two senior roles.)

6 Close of meeting

There being no further items of business, the Chair closed the meeting.

Chair

Date

The meeting closed at 7.16 pm