

## SUMMONS

To the Members of the County Council

**You are hereby summoned to attend the Extraordinary County Council to be held at The Ashburton Hall, The Castle, Winchester at 10.00 am on Monday, 21st June, 2021 to consider and resolve upon the business set out in the Agenda below.**

Enquiries to: Debbie Vaughan, Deputy Head of Governance:  
[members.services@hants.gov.uk](mailto:members.services@hants.gov.uk)

This agenda can be provided on request in large print or Braille or on disk. This meeting will be recorded and broadcast live on the County Council's website. The meeting may also be recorded and broadcast by the press and members of the public – please see the Filming Protocol available on the County Council's website.

### AGENDA

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore all Members with a Personal Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting should consider, having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, consider whether it is appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive any announcements the Chairman may wish to make.

4. **APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE (HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)**  
(Pages 3 - 4)

To consider a report of the Member Appointment Panel recommending the appointment of a Chief Executive of Hampshire County Council.

**John Coughlan CBE**  
**Chief Executive**  
**The Castle**  
**Winchester**

**11 June 2021**

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING, 21 JUNE 2021

## REPORT OF THE MEMBER APPOINTMENT PANEL

### PART I

#### **1. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE (HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)**

- 1.1. At the meeting of the County Council on 27 May 2021, it was reported that the Chief Executive, John Coughlan, would be stepping down on 31 July following 16 years of service to the County Council.
- 1.2. By virtue of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 (as amended) ('the Regulations'), approval of appointment of the Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service) of the County Council is required to be done by the full Council.
- 1.3. Following the decision of the Chief Executive to stand down, Berwick Partners (an Odgers Berndtson company), a firm of Executive Recruitment and Search Consultants were commissioned to conduct an executive search process, and to carry out early interviews of long listed candidates. Berwick Partners reported on the outcome of the long list interviews to a Member Panel drawn from the Conservative Group (four Members) and the Liberal Democrat Group (one Member), and a final shortlist of four candidates was agreed.
- 1.4. A Member Appointment Panel was convened pursuant to the Regulations and the Standing Orders of the County Council to identify a preferred candidate for appointment.
- 1.5. Shortlisted candidates were interviewed by the Member Appointment Panel on 7 June 2021. This included three external candidates and one internal candidate. Prior to interview by the Member Appointment Panel, shortlisted candidates were subject to psychometric testing and interview by a Stakeholder Panel (comprising five Chief Executives equivalents from the wider Hampshire network including the private sector). Members of the Appointment Panel were drawn from the Conservative Group (four Members) and the Liberal Democrat Group (one Member).
- 1.6. The Member Appointment Panel unanimously agreed that their preferred candidate was Carolyn Williamson, currently Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources.

#### **2. Details of interviews and recommendation for appointment**

- 2.1. By virtue of the requirements of the Regulations and the County Council's Standing Orders, following selection of a preferred candidate Cabinet is required to be notified as to details of the proposed appointment, and not to have any objection to the recommendation of the Members' Appointment Panel. The Executive has accordingly been informed as to details of the preferred candidate and has no objection to the appointment.

- 2.2. In accordance with the Regulations and Standing Orders the County Council is now required to approve the appointment.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the County Council:

- a. approves the appointment of Carolyn Williamson as Chief Executive of Hampshire County Council
- b. delegates authority to the current Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman of the Employment in Hampshire County Council Committee (EHCC), for the setting of the salary of the new Chief Executive, to be reflective of the current rate of the role.