

Minutes of a Meeting of the Appointments Committee held in the John Meikle Room, The Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton TA1 1HE, on Wednesday, 27 March 2024 at 5.00 pm

**Present:** Cllr B Revans, Cllr S Osbourne, Cllr S Wakefield.

Mel Lock (Executive Director Adult Services), Josh Barrett (Democratic Services, SC)

**Attending virtually:** Cllr M Chilcott, Cllr C Lawrence, Cllr L Leyshon.

### 1. **Appointment of Chair – agenda item 1**

Cllr B Revans, Leader of the Council having been proposed (Cllr S Wakefield) and seconded (Cllr S Osbourne) was unanimously elected as the Chair for the meeting.

### 2 **Apologies** - Agenda Item 2

No apologies were received.

### 3 **Declaration of Interests** - Agenda Item 3

The Members present confirmed that although they all knew the person that had made the application, they had no declarations to make having read the guidance notes regarding conflicts of interests provided by the Monitoring Officer. The Officers present also declared that although some of them knew the person that had made the application, there were no conflicts of interest.

### 4 **Public Question Time** - Agenda Item 4

There were no public questions.

### 5 **Exclusion of the press and public** - Agenda Item 5

The Committee unanimously agreed, having been proposed (Cllr S Wakefield) and seconded (Cllr S Osbourne), that under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded during the remainder of the meeting on the

basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure to them of exempt information of the following description:

- Information relating to any individual
- Information which is likely to reveal the identity of any individual.

## **6 To Appoint a Service Director - Adults Commissioning - Agenda Item 6**

The Chair advised that as an Appointments Panel, they had followed a robust process, which provided full opportunity to test, through questioning, the shortlisted candidate for the role of Service Director for Adults Commissioning.

The Committee reflected that they had been impressed by the candidate's passion and enthusiasm for the role. Members reflected on their interview with the candidate and that they had covered a variety of different topics areas and sought to gauge responses to questions that tested the knowledge of the candidate and how they might develop their strategic vision to respond to challenges and ensure that Somerset flourished.

The Committee noted that during the interview the candidate had been given and taken the opportunity to demonstrate their encyclopaedic experience, knowledge, skills and personal attributes required to fulfil the role.

The Committee were of a unanimous view that the candidate was able to demonstrate the required experience and skills for the particular role.

The Committee unanimously agreed, having been proposed (Cllr S Osbourne) and seconded (Cllr S Wakefield), to appoint Mr Paul Coles to the position of Service Director for Adults Commissioning.

The Chair thanked the Executive Director, his Committee colleagues, and staff both HR and Democratic Services Teams, who had supported their recruitment process today.

## **7 Minutes of the meeting - Agenda Item 7**

The Committee unanimously agreed, having been proposed (Cllr S Wakefield) and seconded (Cllr S Osbourne), to authorise the Chair of the meeting to sign and authorise the minutes as being a true record of the meeting.

There being no other items the Chair thanked all those present, both in-person and remote, for attending and closed the meeting at 17:10.

**(The meeting ended at 5.10 pm)**

.....

**CHAIR**