

# Public Document Pack



Monitoring Officer  
**Christopher Potter**

County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD  
Telephone (01983) 821000

## Agenda

Name of meeting	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Date	<b>WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2022</b>
Time	<b>5.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Members of the committee	All Members of the council

Democratic Services Officer: Marie Bartlett  
democratic.services@iow.gov.uk

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8. **Interim arrangements following the impending departure of the Chief Executive** (Pages 5 - 8)

To consider and agree interim arrangements.

CHRISTOPHER POTTER  
Monitoring Officer  
Thursday, 17 February 2022



Details of this and other Council committee meetings can be viewed on the Isle of Wight Council's Committee [website](#). This information may be available in alternative formats on request. Please note the meeting will be audio recorded and the recording will be placed on the website (except any part of the meeting from which the press and public are excluded). Young people are welcome to attend Council meetings however parents/carers should be aware that the public gallery is not a supervised area.

## Interests

If there is a matter on this agenda which may relate to an interest you or your partner or spouse has or one you have disclosed in your register of interests, you must declare your interest before the matter is discussed or when your interest becomes apparent. If the matter relates to an interest in your register of pecuniary interests then you must take no part in its consideration and you must leave the room for that item. Should you wish to participate as a member of the public to express your views where public speaking is allowed under the Council's normal procedures, then you will need to seek a dispensation to do so. Dispensations are considered by the Monitoring Officer following the submission of a written request. Dispensations may take up to 2 weeks to be granted.

Members are reminded that it is a requirement of the Code of Conduct that they should also keep their written Register of Interests up to date. Any changes to the interests recorded on that form should be made as soon as reasonably practicable, and within 28 days of the change. A change would be necessary if, for example, your employment changes, you move house or acquire any new property or land.

If you require more guidance on the Code of Conduct or are unsure whether you need to record an interest on the written register you should take advice from the Monitoring Officer – Christopher Potter on (01983) 821000, email [christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk](mailto:christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk), or Deputy Monitoring Officer - Justin Thorne on (01983) 821000, email [justin.thorne@iow.gov.uk](mailto:justin.thorne@iow.gov.uk).

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## **Notice of recording**

Please note that all meetings that are open to the public and press may be filmed or recorded and/or commented on online by the council or any member of the public or press. However, this activity must not disrupt the meeting, and if it does you will be asked to stop and possibly to leave the meeting. This meeting may also be filmed for live and subsequent broadcast (except any part of the meeting from which the press and public are excluded).

If you wish to record, film or photograph the council meeting or if you believe that being filmed or recorded would pose a risk to the safety of you or others then please speak with the democratic services officer prior to that start of the meeting. Their contact details are on the agenda papers.

If the press and public are excluded for part of a meeting because confidential or exempt information is likely to be disclosed, there is no right to record that part of the meeting. All recording and filming equipment must be removed from the meeting room when the public and press are excluded.

If you require further information please see the council guide to reporting on council meetings which can be found at <http://www.iwight.com/documentlibrary/view/recording-of-proceedings-guidance-note>

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### Arrangements for Submitting Oral Questions at Meetings of Council and Cabinet:

The front desk “opens” for public wishing to attend the meeting half an hour before the meeting.

In the circumstances that a member of the public wishes to ask an oral question, they should approach the front desk and notify them of their intention. They will be given a form to complete which details their name, town/village of residence, email address and the topic of the question (not the question in full, unless they wish to provide this).

These forms will be numbered in the order they are handed back.

The time for registering questions will be for a 20 minute period (up to 10 minutes prior to the start of the meeting). After that time expires the forms will be collected and given to the Chairman of the meeting.

If time allows after dealing with any written questions, the Chairman will then ask those who have submitted a form to put their question. These will be in the order they were received. As the subject matter is known, the Chairman should be able to indicate which member will reply. If time permits the Chairman may accept further questions.

The option to ask a supplementary question will be at the Chairman’s discretion.

Once the defined period of time allowed for questions has passed (and assuming the Chairman has not extended this) then all remaining oral questions are left unanswered.

No oral question will receive a guaranteed written response, unless the member responding indicates as such.

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Purpose: For Decision

## Full Council Report

Date **23 FEBRUARY 2022**

Title **INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS FOLLOWING THE IMPENDING DEPARTURE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Report of **MONITORING OFFICER**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Following the announcement that the current Chief Executive will be leaving the Council to take up another role elsewhere, there is a need to put in place interim arrangements to take effect when the Chief Executive departs.
2. Councillors are therefore asked to consider and agree those interim arrangements.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

3. That Wendy Perera, Assistant Chief Executive and Director of Strategy be designated and appointed to undertake the statutory role of Head of Paid Service on a temporary basis, such appointment taking effect immediately upon the Chief Executive's departure.
4. That Wendy Perera, Assistant Chief Executive and Director of Strategy be appointed to act as the interim Chief Executive with all roles and powers of the post of Chief Executive, such appointment taking effect immediately upon the Chief Executive's departure.
5. That these interim arrangements be reviewed no more than 12 months following their commencement.

### BACKGROUND

6. The Chief Executive is leaving the council in order to take up an appointment with another local authority.
7. The council is required to have a statutory officer, the Head of Paid Service. It is the practice for the role to be undertaken by the Chief Executive.

8. Under the council's present constitution, the council has designated the role of Head of Paid Service to the post of Chief Executive (see page 95 of the constitution).
9. As there will be a vacancy for the post of Chief Executive upon the departure of the Chief Executive, and discussions still need to take place regarding permanent arrangements, councillors are being invited to consider making interim arrangements regarding the mandatory role of Head of Paid Service and the post of Chief Executive.
10. It is a function of Full Council to agree to the appointment of the head of paid service, in the case of a permanent appointment this would follow a recommendation from the Appointments and Employment Committee.
11. The Leader of the Council has recommended that Wendy Perera, Assistant Chief Executive and the Director of Strategy be appointed as the interim Head of Paid Service and Chief Executive.

#### CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

12. The [Corporate Plan 2021 – 2025](#) sets out key areas of activity that will be our main areas of focus for the lifetime of this plan which will need to be central to everything we do as a council. The appointment of the Head of Paid Service supports the delivery of this plan.

#### Corporate Aims

13. As above.

#### CONSULTATION

14. None at the time of writing this report.

#### FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

15. The recommended approach can be met from within existing budgets

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

16. Under section 4 (1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, it is the duty of every relevant local authority (a) to designate one of their officers as the head of paid service; and (b) to provide that officer with such staff, accommodation and other resources as are, in that officer's opinion, sufficient to allow the officer's duties under section 4 of that Act to be performed.
17. Designation has to be of an officer of the council (but cannot be the officer holding the designation of the Monitoring Officer – see section 5(1A) of that Act.

18. Appointments have to be in accordance with section 7 ('All staff to be appointed on merit') of that Act.

### EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

19. The council as a public body is required to meet its statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to eliminate unlawful discrimination, promote equal opportunities between people from different groups and to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
20. The recommendations will be in accordance with these obligations.

### OPTIONS

21. The council is required to designate one of their officers as the head of their paid service. The role could be undertaken by any senior officer of the local authority (with the exception of the Monitoring Officer).

### RISK MANAGEMENT

22. There is a statutory duty to so designate and not to do so would invite legal challenge.

### EVALUATION

23. The risk of legal challenge is removed by designation.

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

24. None.

Contact Point: Christopher Potter, Monitoring Officer, ☎ 821000 e-mail: christopher.potter@iow.gov.uk

CLAIRE SHAND  
Director of Corporate Services

CLLR LORA PEACEY-WILCOX  
Leader of the Council

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