

Dear Applicant

Thank you for expressing an interest in this role and I hope this letter and what you glean about the role, the Council and the place, will lead you to making an application.

We are looking for a new Executive Director (Place) following the intended retirement of the existing post holder.

Recruitment into this post will complete our top tier Management Team now comprising three Executive Directors and myself. We are part way through our plans to reshape our second tier from the current position of 13 Heads of Service to 7 or 8 Service Directors. This is being done over a period of 2-3 years. This new structure was agreed by the Executive on March 28th 2019. So far we have appointed 3 Service Directors – Adult Social Care, Environment and Strategy & Governance. We are about to embark on phase two which will create a Development & Regulation Department (the joining of Development & Planning and Public Protection) and the Communities & Prevention Department (the joining of our Culture and Leisure and Public Health services). The successful candidate for this role will be involved in the recruitment process.

We have in the last year we have agreed a new 2036 Vision for West Berkshire which is being overseen by our Health and Wellbeing Board. A new Council Strategy has also been approved. A range of new strategies have been prepared in support of this vision and we are now focusing on delivery.

We undertook our second Corporate Challenge in November last year and are currently working through the recommendations. Our COVID 19 Recovery Plan is focused on a number of themes some of which relate to the Peer Challenge but others highlight both the challenges and opportunities which we feel the Pandemic continues to present.

We are looking for someone who wants to play an active role in helping to develop the Council's Corporate Transformation Programme as well lead the Place Directorate. We are keen to do even more with our partners both locally, and at sub regional and regional level, and so are eager to appoint someone who can lead internally whilst also looking outward to our local communities and partners.

You will, I am sure, do your own research about the Council and West Berkshire and from that form your own views. I joined the Council as a Head of Service when it became a unitary authority in 1998 and have greatly enjoyed not only the place but also its people. I genuinely believe the Council reflects many of the good things about West Berkshire and its communities.

If you are interested in joining the Team then I look forward to hearing from you. If you would like more information or a chat please feel free to email me or give me a ring.

With kind regards,



Nick Carter