

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**  
**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT 5.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 28 MARCH 2023**

**COMMITTEE ROOM - TOWER HAMLETS TOWN HALL, 160 WHITECHAPEL  
ROAD, LONDON E1 1BJ**

**Members Present in Person:**

Councillor Saif Uddin Khaled (Chair)  
Councillor Kabir Ahmed  
Councillor Musthak Ahmed  
Councillor Asma Begum  
Councillor Abu Chowdhury  
Councillor James King  
Councillor Maium Talukdar

**Apologies:**

Councillor Abdal Ullah

**Others Present in Person:**

Richard Penn Consultant

**Officers Present in Person:**

Agnes Adrien (Head of Litigation, Legal Services)  
Pat Chen (Head of HR, HAC and Children & Culture)  
Matthew Mannion (Head of Democratic Services)  
Musrat Zaman (Director of HR, OD & Business Support Services)  
Joel West (Democratic Services Team Leader (Committee))

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None were declared.

**2. REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**2.1 Update on Senior Recruitment**

Pat Chen, Head of HR, introduced the report that updated Members on recruitment to senior posts and sought agreements to formally launch the process for recruiting a new permanent Chief Executive, Corporate Director, Resources (S151 Officer) and Director of Finance (Deputy S151 Officer).

Further to questions from Members, Pat explained

- The outline timeline for the Chief Executive recruitment. It was hoped to fill the post by Summer 2023. It was important that Members involved in the selection process align their diaries to mitigate risk of this timeline slipping.
- A recruitment agency had yet to be selected.
- It was planned to include all roles referred to in the report in a combined advert.
- How other stakeholders would be engaged in the selection process for the new Chief Executive.
- That the selection would be undertaken according the Council's existing procedures for senior officer recruitment, including a politically balanced appointment panel which would agree its preferred candidate to be referred to full Council for final approval.
- Recommendation 2 should also include reference to Corporate Director, Resources (S151 Officer) and Director of Finance (Deputy S151 Officer).

Further to questions, Members asked officers to find out and report if the Committee would have a role to consider or approve the preferred candidate once selected by the appointment panel.

**RESOLVED** that the Committee:

1. Notes the current position on the recruitment to senior management vacancies in the Council structure and any interim arrangements in place.
2. Agrees to formally launch the process for recruiting new permanent Chief Executive, Corporate Director, Resources (S151 Officer) and Director of Finance (Deputy S151 Officer).

The meeting ended at 5.55 p.m.

Chair, Councillor Saif Uddin Khaled  
General Purposes Committee