

Chief Officer Appointments Panel

Friday 17 March 2023

PRESENT:

Councillor Shayer, in the Chair.

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Evans OBE, Laing, Luggar Patel and Singh.

Also in attendance: Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive), Kim Brown (Service Director for HROD) and Jake Metcalfe (Democratic Advisor).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.25 am.

Note: At a future meeting, the Panel will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

57. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

58. **Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting held on 17 February 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

59. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business from the Chair.

60. **Service Director for Education, Participation and Skills - Recruitment Update**

Sharon Muldoon, Director for Children's Services provided an update and highlighted the following key points:

- a) Previously the Panel agreed to go to advert for the post of Service Director for Education, Participation and Skills however this was paused due to advice from the executive search recruiters;
- b) Since the Panel agreed to recruit to the permanent post the Council through the executive search agency, 15 candidate applications were shortlisted to 9 candidates and after further technical interviews – four candidates would be invited to the assessment centre. The Panel would be presented with candidates after the next stage (the assessment centre) for interview at the next Chief Officer Appointments Panel on 14 April 2023;
- c) This recruitment had been positive with quality CVs being submitted. It

was highlighted that this presented a signal of change for Plymouth, for its residents and its children. During the technical interviews it was noted that there was a significant desire shown by the candidates to come to Plymouth and they shared its ambitions for the city and the desire to help children and young people raise attainment level. The assessment centre would be held on 28 or 29 March which would include external, internal and Young People panels. The candidates would also be set a written exercise, meet with the portfolio holder and have a 1:1 meeting with Sharon Muldoon and Kim Brown.

- d) Sharon Muldoon further advised the Panel that issues around attendance in our schools were an entrenched issue and it would be a clear focus for the Service Director for Education, Participation and Skills to get children and young people back into school.

The Panel agreed to note the report.

61. **Exempt Business**

The Panel agreed to pass a resolution under Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.