

Chief Officer Appointments Panel

Friday 19 September 2025

PRESENT:

Councillor Aspinall, in the Chair.

Councillors Mrs Beer, Blight, Coker, Dann (Substituting for Councillor Evans OBE), Laing and Lugger.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Evans OBE

Also in attendance: Jake Metcalfe (Democratic Advisor), Chris Squire (Service Director for HROD) and Gary Walbridge (Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities).

The meeting started at 1.00 pm and finished at 3.51 pm.

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.

13. **Declarations of Interest**

Name	Minute Number	Reason	Interest
Councillor Aspinall	17 and 20	Knew a candidate through work (Cabinet Member)	Personal
Councillor Lugger	17 and 20	Knew spouse of candidate through work.	Personal

14. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting that was held on 15 August 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

15. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chairs urgent business.

16. **Recruitment to the role of Service Director for Integrated Commissioning**

Chris Squire (Service Director for HROD) presented the item to the Panel and highlighted the following key points:

- a) Six candidates were evaluated through longlisting;
- b) Three candidates went through the assessment centre;

- c) Two candidates were proposed to go forward to interview by the Panel.

The Panel agreed to:

1. Note the content of the report.
2. Undertake formal interviews for the post of Service Director for Integrated Commissioning.

17. **Exempt Business**

The Panel agreed that 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 involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

18. **Confidential Minutes**

The confidential minutes of the meeting which was held on 15 August 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

19. **Recruitment to the role of Service Director for Integrated Commissioning**

Following an interview process, the Panel agreed to appoint Chris Morley to the position of Service Director for Integrated Commissioning, subject to Cabinet agreement and the necessary pre-employment checks.