
CHIEF OFFICERS APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE, 30.09.14

Present: Councillor Peredur Jenkins (Chairman)

Councillors: Dyfed Edwards, Trevor Edwards, Jean Forsyth, Selwyn Griffiths, Alwyn Gruffydd, Siân Gwenllïan, Jason Humphreys, Brian Jones, Eric M. Jones, Angela Russell, Dyfrig Siencyn, R.H. Wyn Williams.

Also Present: Alwyn Evans-Jones (Head of Human Resources Department), Geraint Owen (Senior Manager – Human Resources Department), Dilwyn O. Williams (Chief Executive Designate), Iwan Trefor Jones (Corporate Director) and Lowri Haf Evans (Member Support and Scrutiny Officer).

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Councillor Stephen Churchman and Liz Saville Roberts.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED to elect Councillor Trevor Edwards as Vice-chairman of the committee for 2014/15.

3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

None to note.

4. URGENT ITEMS

None to note.

5. MINUTES

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting of this committee held on 6 May as a true record.

6. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12, Part 4, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. This paragraph applied because the report contained information relating to specific individuals and those individuals had a right to privacy. There was no public interest that called for disclosing personal information regarding individuals or for them to be identified. Consequently, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

7. DRAWING UP A SHORT LIST FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE HEAD OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Members were reminded of the decision of the Full Council (17.7.2014), when

"It was decided to adopt the recommendation of the Chief Officers Appointment Panel and change the Council's Pay Policy in respect of the Head of Education post such that the maximum of the pay scale is consistent with the median benchmark. The Chief Officers Appointment Committee is also asked to open discussions with neighbouring education authorities in order to see whether it is possible to collaborate at a senior management level in the education field, and the committee is given the operational right to decide on the best way of filling the post of the Head of Education Department."

The Chief Executive Designate noted that Conwy had now stated that they would be looking at merging with Denbighshire and, therefore, he had discussed with the Chief Executive of Anglesey to see whether they would be willing to consider collaborating in the field of Education. In terms of collaborating with Anglesey, it was noted that discussions at officer level had suggested that the door could be open should we wish to have discussions but of course the statements that had now emerged in terms of Anglesey's attitude towards a merger had raised questions about the whole field.

The advantages and disadvantages of continuing to attempt to appoint against opening discussions were considered. In light of the risks and in accordance with the Committee's right to decide on the best way of filling the post of Head of Education, it was decided to continue with drawing up a short list.

The Senior Manager, Human Resources Department reported that six applications had been received for the post.

RESOLVED

To include three candidates on the short list.

A request was made for the Appointment Committee to consider adding a market supplement (under control) to appointments of chief officers. It was proposed and seconded that a market supplement should be added (under control) on chief officers' appointments.

Advice was given that the Chief Officers Appointment Committee needed to recommend a specific amount for the market supplement.

It was proposed and seconded that the Council should set an amount of up to two thousand pounds.

An amendment was proposed and seconded that an amount of up to five thousand pounds be set.

(Councillors Trefor Edwards and Jason Humphreys noted that they were not supportive of any increase.)

RESOLVED: THAT THE COUNCIL IS RECOMMENDED TO PROVIDE A MARKET SUPPLEMENT OF A MAXIMUM OF FIVE THOUSAND POUNDS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF OFFICERS.

The meeting commenced at 2.00pm and concluded at 2.45pm.