

County Hall
Cardiff
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Caerdydd
CF10 4UW
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#### **AGENDA**

Committee APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR EDUCATION

Date and Time of Meeting

MONDAY, 27 JUNE 2016, 3.30 PM

Venue ROOM 263C, LEVEL 2, COUNTY HALL, ATLANTIC WHARF, CARDIFF

Membership Councillor Merry (Chair)

Councillors Hinchey, Margaret Jones, Magill and McKerlich

#### 1 Apologies (if any)

#### 2 Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest (such declarations to be made in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct).

#### 3 Terms of Reference

To discharge the functions of the authority in respect of the appointment and dismissal of Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers (as defined in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Wales) Regulations 2006) and the statutory Head of Democratic Services, in accordance with the Employment Procedure Rules and any other relevant Council policies and procedures.

#### 4 Exclusion of the Public

Information included in the following item is not for publication by virtue of paragraphs 12 and 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

#### **5 Minutes** (*Pages 1 - 2*)

To approve the minutes of the Appointment Committee, Assistant Director Education - Long-listing held on 8 June 2016.

#### **Appointment of Assistant Director Education** (Pages 3 - 56)

To short-list candidates for interview following the Assessment Centre for the post of Assistant Director Education.

## 7 Dismissal (if required)

To consider any consequential dismissal (if required).

David Marr Interim Monitoring Officer

Date: Tuesday, 21 June 2016

Contact: Gill Nurton, 029 2087 2432, g.nurton@cardiff.gov.uk

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg



The City of Cardiff Council

Recruitment Pack

**Assistant Director of Education** 





Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in this post.

Education is at the heart of the drive for improvement in the City of Cardiff Council. It is also a key priority for improvement across Wales. Cardiff, as the capital city, is centrally placed to play a leading role in delivering the improvement expected.

Working with our partners in the Central South Education Consortium we have made significant progress in tackling some long-standing problems, changing the culture and re-framing aspirations and expectations. We are now setting out a clear plan for building on this base to ensure consistently excellent education in schools throughout the city.

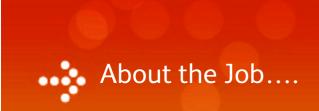
The Council is seeking the right people with the professional expertise, managerial capacity and fresh perspectives to support the political leadership in delivering a fast-paced and ambitious agenda to achieve the Council's vision for the city.

This is an exciting opportunity to become part of a senior management team in a leading public sector organisation with 15,000 employees delivering over 700 individual services to over 350,000 residents.

The role offers significant professional challenges, and real rewards. The person appointed will work closely with me to shape and deliver the next phase of our improvement. They will have lead responsibility for service delivery; will be highly visible to school leaders and governors; and with me will work closely with elected members to deliver the ambitions of the Cabinet.

If you would like an informal discussion about this role please contact me on 029 20 872700.

Nick Batchelar Director of Education





#### **Education Directorate**

## Assistant Director of Education Salary £82,416

The City of Cardiff Council is committed to achieving a step-change in educational attainment to secure the best possible outcomes for learners in the capital city of Wales. Performance has improved significantly, and we are now setting out an ambitious programme to take this forward over the next five years, putting education at the heart of the city's future economic and social prosperity.

Reporting to the Director of Education, you will have lead responsibility for service delivery and will be highly visible to school leaders and governors. The role offers significant professional challenge, and real scope for making a difference.

For an informal discussion about this post, please contact the Director of Education, Nick Batchelar on (029) 2087 2700.

#### **The Recruitment Process**

Should you decide to make a formal application, the first stage will be shortlisting based on your application. This is a Member appointment.

#### **Closing Date**

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 12 noon

#### **Enquiries**

If you wish to have an informal discussion prior to application, please contact the Director of Education, Nick Batchelar on 029 2087 2700.

#### **Equal Opportunities**

Equal opportunities will be afforded to all applicants. Appointment will be made on merit.





**Role Title: Assistant Director of Education** 

**Grade: Assistant Director Spot Salary** 

#### **Primary Purpose of Role**

To take lead responsibility for the successful and safe operations of a broad range of service areas: to manage and co-ordinate people, financial and capital resources to ensure the effective delivery of agreed priorities, change programmes and high-quality day-to-day service for customers.

#### **Key Accountabilities**

- To translate strategic commitments for the portfolio into an aligned framework of operational plans, and, subsequently, to oversee the execution, review and improvement of these plans
- To play the lead role in the delivery of change programmes and projects across the portfolio of services (working with partners where appropriate) ensuring that the desired outputs and outcomes are secured
- To effectively manage the people, financial and other resources of the portfolio ensuring that they are aligned with corporate priorities and genuine customer need
- To ensure that Operational Managers understand and fulfil their budgetary accountabilities; guiding and supporting them to make tougher choices within a context of diminishing resources and changing service demand
- To facilitate and ensure the successful implementation of internal and/or external partnership arrangements
- To establish and apply effective individual and team performance management systems in order to monitor, assess and improve standards and the achievement of key performance indicators
- To lead, motivate and develop a team of Operational Managers (and wider management and staff group) – ensuring the highest levels of buy-in and execution of the Council's priorities and corporate objectives
- To ensure that practices are put into place to promote safe and appropriately risk-managed operational delivery
- To lead Operational Managers in the production of robust and meaningful business plans providing clarity of purpose, emphasis and key deliverables for the portfolio of services
- To ensure that effective communication and engagement processes are in place to share new ideas, new ways of working and to provide insight to progress and achievements

#### Areas of Responsibility

- Achievement and Inclusion Services, which include:
  - School Standards and Improvement
  - > Ethnic Minority, Looked After Children and Youth services
  - Flying Start and Childcare services
  - > 14 to 19 provision
  - Inclusion services
  - Governor support



- · Performance, Resources and Services
  - > Service and School Performance Management
  - Service and School Budgets
  - Business Support
  - > Direct Services including Catering, Music Service and Outdoor Studies Centre
  - Health and Safety
- School Organisation, Access and Planning
  - Admissions
  - School organisation planning
  - School capital investment plan
  - > Asset management across education estate

#### **Types of Measures of Success**

- Continually improving performance against key performance indicators for the portfolio
- Achievement of Corporate Priorities for the portfolio
- Effective co-ordination of resources across the portfolio of services
- Effective budget control across the portfolio, with the delivery of required budget savings

When preparing your written application you will need to provide evidence only for the competencies identified with an asterisk. These are the essential competencies for your written application. In responding to each of the essential competency areas, you must provide examples which demonstrate how you have successfully delivered results of a size, scope and complexity comparable to the challenges faced by Cardiff Council. These and the remaining competencies will be assessed during the remaining stages of the recruitment process.

Behavioural Competencies	Application Stage	Competency Level(s)
Putting Our Customers First	*	5
Getting Things Done	*	4
Taking Personal Responsibility	*	4
Seeking to Understand Others		4
Developing Potential		4
Leading Change	*	4
Initiating Change and Improvement	*	4
Organisational Awareness		4
Partnering and Corporate Working	*	4
Communicating		4
Analysing , Problem Solving and Decision		4
Making		
Equality & Diversity		4
Optimising Resources	*	4
Demonstrating Political Acumen		4





#### 1. CONTRACT

This is a permanent appointment.

#### 2. CONDITIONS

Conditions of service will be in accordance with the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers of Local Authorities as adopted by the County Council from time to time, plus any other conditions or regulations determined by the Council from time to time in consultation with the recognised trade unions.

#### 3. SALARY

The inclusive spot salary for this post is £82,416. National pay awards in accordance with the JNC for Chief Officers of Local Authorities will be applied.

#### 4. PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

There will be an annual process of performance appraisal linked to the setting and achievement of the responsibilities and accountabilities of the job; and identifying any continuing personal development needs to maintain a high level of performance. The process is separate from any scheme relating to either pay or performance related pay.

#### 5. ANNUAL LEAVE

Annual leave will be 27 days for employees with less than 5 years continuous service, and 32 days for employees with more than 5 years continuous service. You will also be entitled to 8 bank holidays.

#### 6. HOURS OF WORK

The job of Assistant Director cannot be satisfactorily undertaken within a fixed working week and some element of unsocial hours will be required for the proper performance of the responsibilities. The inclusive salary scale for the appointment reflects the need to work in addition to and outside normal office hours.

#### 7. SICK PAY

Occupational Sick Pay Scheme will be in accordance with the JNC for Chief Officers' Conditions of Service.

#### 8. PENSION

Local Government Pension Scheme. An opting out notice is available from the Pension Section.



#### 9. POLITICAL RESTRICTION

This post is politically restricted in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (as amended by Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009).

#### 10. CAR LOAN SCHEME

You are eligible for a loan (which is not a taxable benefit) under the Council's scheme.

#### 11. CAR MILEAGE ALLOWANCE

If you need to use your vehicle for business purposes you will be reimbursed at the HRMC mileage rate.

#### 12. SMOKING

The Council has a no smoking policy.

#### 13. FLEXIBILITY AND MOBILITY CLAUSE

As a term of your employment you may be required to undertake such other duties and/or times of work as may reasonably be required of you commensurate with your grade or general level of responsibility within the organisation, at your initial place of work or at or from any other of the Council's establishments.

#### 14. SATISFACTORY MEDICAL REPORT

A satisfactory medical report is required from the Council's Medical Adviser on initial appointment to the Council.

#### 15. NOTICE PERIODS

This will normally be three months in writing on either side but this can be changed by mutual agreement.

#### 16. RESTRICTIONS ON RE-EMPLOYMENT

Certain restrictions apply after termination of employment. These relate to not divulging confidential information. Also within 12 months not taking up employment or providing services for reward to a body in the circumstances outlined in the conditions of service, without the consent of the Council which will not unreasonably be withheld. These provisions do not apply if the termination is as a result of redundancy or externalisation of work and a consequent transfer to a new employer.





# City of Cardiff Council Behavioural Competency Framework Supporting the Values of the Council

Open
We are open and honest about the difficult choices we face, and allow people to have their say on what's important to them and their communities

Fair
We champion fairness, recognising that with less resource we need to prioritise services for those who need them most.

Together
We work with our communities and partners across the city to deliver the best outcomes for the people of Cardiff

## **Putting our Customers First (Core)**

This competency is about placing the customer at the heart of our activities, listening to them and being prepared to do things differently to meet their needs

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Understand who our customers are  Be polite, helpful and considerate and take time to listen to customers  Work with colleagues to help meet customer needs	Seek to understand our customer needs  Asking for customer feedback  Using feedback to inform our actions, priorities and recommendations	Encouraging and supporting others to deliver excellent customer service  Consulting and engaging with community and customer groups to identify customer need  Developing ways of working, processes and structures to achieve continual improvements in customer service	Ensuring that customer views are fully taken into account in the planning of services  Promoting and ensuring working across service areas to improve customer care  Challenging others across the organisation to improve service delivery	Analysing services from the 'customer perspective' to ensure high-quality, timely and flexible  Understanding and guiding others towards early intervention, prevention and the elimination of demand caused by service failure  Putting the customer at the centre of cross-portfolio working and external partnerships: seeks to achieve seamless, efficient and accessible service provision  Using rigorous methods to test, review and enhance the customer experience

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## **Getting Things Done (Core)**

This competency is about the personal, inner motivation, enthusiasm and drive to meet and exceed targets so that we focus on what needs to be done and make it happen

Level 1 - What we	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
stand for				
Ensuring tasks are	Ensuring own and, where	Establishing ways of measuring and	Making decisions and setting priorities on the basis of	Ensuring that performance is focused on continually
completed to high standard and see them through to	applicable, others' outputs meet requirements	benchmarking performance	calculated costs, benefits	improving outcomes for
completion	meet requirements	benefithanking performance	and risks.	customers and the city region
1	Identifying and	Committing required		as a whole
Contributing to ensure	communicating priorities to	resources and time to deliver	Supporting and driving new	
efficient ways of working	relevant people	and improve results	performance improvement	Engaging with internal and/or
Manitoring and abadding own	Identifying where the right	Defining and communicating	initiatives	external partners at a
Monitoring and checking own progress against	Identifying where the right resources and skills are	Defining and communicating critical success factors for	Seeking, identifying and	strategic level to ensure that performance is optimised.
requirements	available	service delivery	taking actions to overcome	performance is optimised.
•			organisational barriers to	Taking necessary actions
			deliver improved results	and making hard choices to
			De comicio e cond	ensure results are delivered.
			Recognising and acknowledging the	Identifying and resolving
			performance of others	systemic or structural
				barriers to performance.
				·
				Establishing a culture of
				achievement and a shared commitment to exceed
				targets
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## Taking Personal Responsibility (Core)

This competency is about being consistent with our own values and those of the council, and demonstrate a commitment to support change and see it through.

Level 1 - What we	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
stand for				
Being consistent and fair in dealings with others  Rectifying errors and seeking	Continuing to deliver when faced with tough circumstances, uncertainty, difficulty or change.	Challenging established practices where they are not consistent with fairness and openness.	Challenging powerful individuals to behave in a way that models the organisational values	As a visible leader, modelling and promoting the council's values in all activities and interactions
appropriate guidance and support to correct them  Sharing of all relevant information with others	Supporting and encouraging others to deal with uncertainty, difficulty or change	Speaking out even when it jeopardises a trusted or valuable relationship	Actively promoting and driving an organisational commitment to public service	Retaining the highest standards of honesty, integrity and respect during periods of significant
	Encouraging others to be fair, open and honest	Seeking to turn difficult situations around	Ensuring sharing of all relevant information across the organisation  Ensuring organisational practices are transparent	Providing values-based leadership for the development and maintenance of city-region and partnering arrangements
	Tail, open and nonest		Ensuring organisational	leadership for the development and maintenance of d

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## Seeking to understand others, and treating them with respect (Core)

This competency is about demonstrating an understanding of others and valuing their contribution and viewpoint even if it may be different from your own

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Asking about others' views and feelings, and actively listening and acknowledging these  Acknowledging and considering the different views and ideas of others  Checking own understanding of how others feel	Questioning others to understand their viewpoint and take them into account  Seeking to understand, the reasons for others actions and views  Encouraging others to consider the impact of their actions	Shaping the environment to ensure others feel positive and conflict is minimised  Addressing and changing things when the behaviours of others is disruptive  Seeking and taking opportunities to create and support forums where people can express their views and concerns	Assessing the strengths and development areas of others, aligning their strengths to the demands and requests made of them  Seeking to understand the source of negative emotions within and external to the organisation  Identifying and taking action to pre-empt situations where strong emotions will be aroused.	Building positive relationships with others in challenging and complex circumstances  Understanding and responding to the political, financial, reputational and other factors that influence the behaviour of senior people  Recognising and taking action to resolve cultural or systemic causes of conflict, misunderstanding or lack of collaboration  Modelling consistently collaborative, supportive and respectful behaviour towards others

## **Developing Potential**

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
	Supporting others' to identify their development needs and find ways to meet these needs  Actively supporting others to develop understanding and/or skills  Mentoring others and sharing knowledge to improve performance	Supporting others to acquire the skills needed for the future in the short, medium and long term  Giving positive and constructive feedback  Actively looking for and taking opportunities to coach and mentor others	Promoting and encouraging staff development across the organisation  Ensure a resource pool to meet longer-term talent requirements  Develop others to equip them for leadership roles	Predicting changing organisational needs and taking action to ensure people are fully equipped to meet them  Taking a visible and proactive role to development high quality leadership and management skills across the organisation.  Understanding and nurturing the skills and behaviours required to optimise partnering arrangements

## **Leading Change**

This competency is about taking responsibility for change, encouraging initiative and making the Council's objectives real and relevant for others

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
	Promoting and being positive about change  Seeking opportunities for self and others to contribute to change  Helping others to understand the reasons for and the process of change	Setting out and communicating the vision and the rationale for change  Looking for ways to support and contribute to successful change  Enabling and supporting colleagues and stakeholders to deal effectively with change	Simplifying a complex or confusing message to provide a clear vision that others are able to buy into and act upon  Following through on change to ensure it is fully embedded in the organisation, the benefits are realised and lessons learnt for future change.  Creating and promoting a culture and environment in which change is managed effectively and sensitively, to increase the likelihood of buy-in and success	Creating a coherent vision, aligning and integrating many different change initiatives and programmes  Testing and evaluating the longer-term and strategic impact of change programmes  Ensuring that structures and resources are in place to effectively lead and manage change programmes  Championing change and securing buy-in from senior players internally and externally  Demonstrating consistent drive, resilience and agility during challenging periods of change

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## **Initiating Change and improvement**

This competency is about having the ability to look ahead, anticipate events, see opportunities and take action now to shape the future

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Seeking and taking opportunities to improve  Being flexible and open to changes  Being cooperative when change impacts upon you	Using knowledge and experience to proactively put forward suggestions for improving  Dealing with the unexpected and adapting readily to change.  Identifying and taking action to head off potential problems	Encouraging, promoting and supporting new ideas  Constantly encouraging self and others to look for improvements in methods, approaches and ways of working  Identifying and implementing new approaches to improve	Looking for long-term opportunities that will create positive changes and taking action to make these a reality  Identify new and bold ideas to respond to opportunities that lie ahead.  Actively use internal and external data and trends to add value for the customers and the council  Develop clear direction on how the organisation can improve	Recognising when only radically different models of delivery will secure the desired outcomes  Being creative and thinking without boundaries: challenging narrow views and deep-rooted resistance  Taking action to quickly translate initial ideas into tangible results when speed of execution is essential  Identifying when 'good ideas' do not fit with the bigger picture or strategic intent

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## **Organisational Awareness**

This competency is about understanding formal and informal structures, decision-making, climate and culture and organisational politics, which shape how the council works

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
		Identifying and challenging organisational limitations, where applicable  Identifying both formal and	Acknowledging and responding to internal and external forces affecting the organisation	Identifying and optimising decision-making processes in city region and other partnering arrangements
		informal sources of influence and using this knowledge to build relationships with key decision makers/influencers	Spotting trends and changes – both internal and external – that will affect the organisation in the future.	Sustainably exerts influence within a variety of different working arrangements e.g. city region, private sector partnerships, etc.
		Recognising the reasons for on-going organisational behaviour	Forming and maintaining relationships with key provincial and national institutions, bodies and individuals to protect and enhance the council's position	

## Partnering and Corporate Working

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Actively participating as member of a team  Proactively sharing information and ideas openly within own team  Supporting others to complete tasks	Identifying and building effective and collaborative working relationships  Proactively sharing information and ideas openly with all relevant teams  Acknowledge different stakeholder priorities and take them into account	Proactively maintaining a network of internal and external colleagues to enable service improvement and service delivery  Promoting and forming cross-functional teams to deliver results and improvement  Working collaboratively to gain buy-in and agreement towards a common goal	Promote and lead partnership and corporate working, across and outside the organisation  Using depth and breadth of contacts to build alliances for wide and far reaching change  Managing complex relationships, internally and externally, to establish common goals and develop mutual commitment to positive outcomes	Forging and continually developing a complex network of senior-level relationships to optimise the productivity of the city region  Focusing on desired outcomes and defining which types of partnering arrangements will best achieve them  Ensuring the right-strategic partnerships are in place to optimise the use of public sector resources in a climate of austerity  Unlocking the key strategic barriers to partnership and collaboration  Exploiting the use of commercial partnerships and ventures, whilst effectively accounting for the risk factors

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## Communicating

This competency is about facilitating and communicating all kinds of information and messages to different audiences in the most effective way

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Communicating clearly and effectively  Actively listening to other  Sharing information and knowledge with others.	Taking technical or complex information and turning it into clear oral or written communications  Producing communications that are focussed tailored and easily understood by the intended audience.  Capture and share useful information and feedback	Selecting most appropriate communication styles, approaches and channels  Communicating challenging and contentious messages with openness  Responding openly to challenges and addressing concerns	Communicating appropriately in response to a crisis or unexpected event where preparation time may be limited.  Clearly articulating highly complex, strategic and conceptual information to others in a meaningful and relevant way  Creating an environment and culture that encourages open, honest, timely and effective communication	Communicating and influencing effectively in critical internal and external environments  Interpreting accurately what has been said/not said in senior level discussions and negotiations: explores the important subtle messages  Positions the Council clearly and credibly when outlining its position  Conveys the right messages in the right places to secure the desired outcomes

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#### **Analysing, Problem Solving and Decision Making**

This competency is about gathering key information, recognising risks, evaluation, decision-making to support best practice Level 1 - What we Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 stand for Making reasoned decisions Investigating and evaluating Looking beyond the Exploring a variety of options Anticipating and assessing based on evidence in order to effectively solve options when making long-term and strategic risks, immediate issues and problems and make decisions whilst anticipating addressing them and helping placing them within Taking a logical approach to and assessing short and others to recognise and reasoned decisions. the context of the Councils strategic direction problem solving. medium term risks address them. Anticipating the impact that Seeking to ensure all known decisions will have on others Ensuring solutions to Creating an environment and Promoting and nurturing key information is gathered complex problems are culture in which people make joined-up decision-making and taking this into account realistic and workable. and implementing solutions. decisions and take ensures key people are responsibility for them. communicating and aligning Using appropriate Following through on their efforts solutions / decisions, until approaches or tools to Taking appropriate steps to communicate and deal with gather all relevant closure or resolution, to Undertaking complex strategic analyses and information in order to take a ensure they are understood the impact of decisions on decision and/or solve a and implemented by others colleagues, customers and/or presenting the options to problem partners senior politicians in an accurate and balanced way Foreseeing and managing the longer-term implications and potential unintended consequences of key strategic decisions

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#### **Equality and Diversity**

Removing discrimination and barriers to fair access to Council employment and services on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation or Welsh language. Recognising, valuing and celebrating difference, and being able to work together to create a vibrant, diverse, just, cohesive and decent society where everyone can enjoy their human rights and achieve their potential

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Follow equality policies, procedures and legislation  Treating others with dignity and respect  Acknowledging the value of differences between people	Promoting the importance of equality and valuing diversity in the workplace and in service delivery  Acknowledging and communicating that every employee has a role to play in making the Council an Employer of Choice and a successful deliverer of services to diverse communities	Identifying and ensuring good equality and diversity practice and remove barriers.  Ensuring that equality and diversity are always actively considered when introducing a new activity, policy or decision  Supporting others to consider and deliver good practice	Promoting and ensuring a culture in which equality and diversity is valued through fair and just service delivery and employment.  Advocating and championing equality and diversity within the organisation  Engaging equalities communities and stakeholders, and involving them in shaping Council policies and practices	Challenging and testing services to ensure that commitments to equality and diversity are being robustly implemented.  Putting systems in place and using them to evaluate the degree to which services are securing improved outcomes in the lives of all service users: taking action to tackle all aspects of inequality.  Challenging and improving the culture and processes of the organisation; ensuring that the potential of all employees is identified, nurtured and fully realised.  Working together with partner organisations to cohesively achieve improving strategic equality and diversity outcomes.

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## **Optimising Resources**

Leading and creating a culture where resources are effectively deployed, efficiently managed and used creatively to deliver the best outcomes for the city and region.

Level 1 What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
			Providing higher-level guidance and advice to managers regarding the efficient deployment of resources  Taking responsibility for developing skills and attitudes that promote the effective use of resources  Encouraging a creative culture, where people look for novel or adapted ways to deliver excellent results more efficiently  Taking difficult decisions about services with the priorities of customers being paramount	Giving strategic direction to senior colleagues about where to invest, to disinvest and to save: clarifies the big picture context (in line with Cabinet priorities)  Demonstrating commercial/acumen; fully understanding the financial and other factors of potential ventures  Establishing a culture of accountability where resources are efficiently and carefully managed across all services  Utilising regional and other partnerships and collaborations to optimise resources  Encouraging and supporting efforts to attract new or increased income streams

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## **Demonstrating Political Acumen**

Working effectively within the context of a member-led authority; understanding political priorities for the city region and establishing a position as a trusted and impartial advisor. Helping senior politicians to 'test' and fully appreciate the best ways to implement agreed priorities and commitments.

Level 1 What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
-	-	-	Understanding key political decision-making processes and engaging with them appropriately	Understanding the priorities of the Cabinet and translating these into action in the organisation
			Ensuring the production of clear, accurate and timely responses to member enquiries	Offering clear and accurate advice to senior politicians, highlighting the benefits, risks and implications of key strategic choices
			Deputising for the relevant Director and providing robust guidance to senior elected members	Being aware of political sensitivities, whilst retaining non-political objectivity
			Ensuring that managers and staff engage appropriately and effectively with elected members	Keeping politicians informed in a timely and proactive manner; avoiding unnecessary surprises
				Understanding and making sense of the local, regional and national political agendas

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