

County Hall Cardiff CF10 4UW Tel: (029) 2087 2000

Neuadd y Sir Caerdydd CF10 4UW Ffôn: (029) 2087 2000

# AGENDA

## Pwyllgor PWYLLGOR PENODI - PRIF GYFREITHYDD CYFREITHIWR

Dyddiad ac amser DYDD LLUN, 4 MAWRTH 2019, 1.30 PM y cyfarfod

Lleoliad COMMITTEE ROOM 2, COUNTY HALL, ATLANTIC WHARF, CARDIFF

Aelodaeth Cynghorydd Weaver (Cadeirydd) Cynghorwyr Carter, Derbyshire, Mackie a/ac Williams

## 1 Ymddiheuriadau (Os o gwbl)

## 2 Nodiadau ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Llunio Rhestr Fer (Tudalennau 3 - 4)

### 3 Datgan Buddiannau (os o gwbl)

#### 4 Cylch Gorchwyl

Cyflawni swyddogaethau'r awdurdod o ran penodi a diswyddo Prif Swyddogion a Dirprwy Brif Swyddogion (fel y'u diffinnir yn Rheoliadau Awdurdodau Lleol (Gorchmynion Sefydlog) (Cymru) 2006) a Phennaeth statudol Gwasanaethau Democrataidd, yn unol â'r Rheolau Gweithdrefnau Cyflogaeth ac unrhyw bolisïau a gweithdrefnau perthnasol y Cyngor.

**5 Cofnodion** (Tudalennau 5 - 6)

Cymeradwyo cofnodion y Pwyllgor a gynhaliwyd ar 11 Chwefror 2019.

- 6 Pecyn Recriwtio (Tudalennau 7 26)
- 7 Eithrio'r Cyhoedd

Ni chaiff y wybodaeth yn yr eitemau canlynol ei chyhoeddi yn sgil paragraffau 12 a 13 Rhan 4 Atodlen 12A Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972.

## 8 Penodi Prif Gyfreithydd Cyfreithiwr (Tudalennau 27 - 140)

(a) I gadarnhau bod y Cais a dderbyniwyd gan Ymgeisydd 2 a oedd wedi cwrdd a'r cymhwysedd ar fyger y ròl a chytunwyd gan aelodau y Pwyllgor yn cael ei gyflwyno am hasesiad.

(b) I ystyried rhestr fer ymgeiswyr ar ôl y broses asesu ar gyfer cyfweliad i swydd rif Gyfreithydd Cyfreithiwr.

## 9 Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Nesaf – Dydd Llun 4 Mawrth 2019

Davina Fiore Cyfarwyddwr Llywodraethu a Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol Dyddiad: 26 Chwefror 2019, Cyswllt: Gill Nurton, E-Bost g.nurton@caerdydd.gov.uk T: 02920872432

## NOTES FOR RECONVENED APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE FOR SHORT-LISTING FOR APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE / CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES / DIRECTORS / ASSISTANT DIRECTORS /CHIEF OFFICERS

- 1. Chair reminds Members of the Committee of the need to offer comments on the list of candidates based on their personal review of applications (applications having been sent out with this note) and the results of the assessment centre which will follow and be presented by the Advisor and Lead Officer for discussion at the meeting.
- 2. Lead Officer / Advisor talks through the assessment centre report each candidate in turn answering any questions relating to the assessment raised by any Member of the Committee.
- 3. Members discuss the information received and consider who should go through to the final Appointment Committee.
- 4. Agreement is sought from Committee on the candidates to be included for the final stage of the process.
- 5. Lead officer / Advisor answers any queries relating to the next stage of the assessment.
- 6. Chair confirms the outcome of the discussion by listing the candidates being taken through to the next stage the Appointment Committee.
- 7. Lead officer confirms the Appointment Committee details including date and timings based on the number of candidates confirmed by the shortlist committee.
- 8. Chair concludes the Committee.

## APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE - PRINCIPAL LAWYER LITIGATION

### 11 FEBRUARY 2019

Present: Councillors Derbyshire, Weaver and Williams

1 : APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor Chris Weaver was appointed as Chairperson of the Committee.

2 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carter and Mackie.

3 : DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

4 : TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference were noted as follows: -

"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 other relevant Council policies and procedures".

#### 5 : JOB ROLE

Details of the Job Role and Competencies were noted.

6 : EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the public be excluded during the discussion on the following item of business on the grounds that, if members of the public were present during the discussion, because of the nature of the business to be transacted there would be disclosure to them of the except information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and as described below: -

Paragraph 12 – Information relating to an applicant to become an employee of the Authority; and

Paragraph 13 – Information which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

## 7 : APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL LAWYER LITIGATION

The Appointment Committee was convened to consider the long-list of candidates for the appointment of Principal Litigation Lawyer.

The Committee reviewed 11 applications received for the post and gave consideration to how each candidate met the essential competencies from the Behavioural Competencies Framework and the role profile; and identified those candidates to be recommended to go forward for assessment.

RESOLVED – That Candidates 5, 8, 9 and 11 be put forward for assessment to be held week commencing 25 February 2019.

8 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 4 March 2019 at 1.30pm in Committee Room 2.

The meeting terminated at 2.40 pm



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



## JOB DESCRIPTION AND PERSON SPECIFICATION

<b>Job Title</b> : Principal Solicitor (Litigation) OM2	<b>Directorate</b> : Governance and Legal Services
Section: Litigation	<b>Reporting to</b> : Director of Governance and Legal Services
Grade: OM2	Hours per Week: 37
Post Number:	Number of Employees Reporting to Post:7
<ul> <li>Special Conditions:</li> <li>The job of Operational Manager cannot be satisfactorily undertaken within a fixed working week and some evening and weekend working will be required for proper performance of the duties.</li> <li>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).</li> </ul>	Location of Post: County Hall
Job Purpose: The Principal Solicitor will be responsible for and management of the Litigation Team dea (excluding social services litigation); legal wo housing, employment, education, and quasi-	ling with criminal and civil litigation ork associated with the Council's regulatory

Cabinet, Committees, and Directorates on related legal matters; representation of the Council in Court and at Tribunals, hearings, and inquiries; and as requested by the Monitoring Officer, acting as Deputy Monitoring Officer. The postholder will also be a member of the Directorate Management Team.

# **Duties and Responsibilities**

# Job Specific Requirements

 To supervise, manage, and monitor the performance of the staff and work of the Litigation Team, including criminal and civil litigation (excluding social services litigation); legal work associated with the Council's regulatory, housing, employment, education, and quasi-judicial functions; advice to the Council, Committees, and Directorates on related legal matters; and representation of the Council in Court and at Tribunals, hearings, and inquiries

- 2. To act if required by the Monitoring Officer as the Monitoring Officer's nominated deputy for the purposes of Section 5(7) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 3. To act as the Directorate's lead employment lawyer.
- 4. To conduct litigation (both civil and criminal) on behalf of the Council, including acting as the Council's advocate before Courts, Tribunals, hearings, and inquiries.
- 5. To attend and advise, as required, meetings of the Council and its Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees, Senior Management Team, and working parties.
- 6. To provide general legal advice to Directorates and officers of the Council, and to associated bodies, companies, and organisations.
- 7. To be a member of the Directorate Management Team.
- 8. If required and able to be the Service Training Principal for trainee solicitors, registered with the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

## **Corporate Requirements**

- 1. To participate actively in supporting the principles and practice of equality of opportunity as stated in the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.
- 2. To take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and other persons who may be affected by your acts or omissions and to comply with all health and safety legislation as appropriate.
- 3. 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.
- 4. Although you will be provided with a base, you will be required to work from various locations in accordance with the needs of the role.

DATE COMPLETED: \_\_\_\_\_ AGREED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ (Recruiting Manager)

Date Received by Post holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Post holder: \_



## **Person Specification**

Job Title: Principal Solicitor (Litigation) Post Number:

### THE PERSON APPOINTED MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS

Area to be Demonstrated	Essential Requirements YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS	Desirable Requirements YOU DO NOT HAVE TO MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS BUT IF YOU DO, PLEASE TELL US	How Assessed Application Form or Interview or Both
Competencies (as per Behavioural Competency Framework)	<ul> <li>Putting Our Custome</li> <li>Getting Things Done</li> <li>Taking Personal Res</li> <li>Seeking to understan them with respect – L</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Level 4</li> <li>ponsibility – Level 4</li> <li>id others and treating</li> </ul>	Application Form, Interview, Written Test and Presentation
Education & Training	Solicitor or barrister or equivalent qualification with ability to practice.	Management training or willingness to undertake training	Application Form & Certification where required
Experience / Knowledge	<ul> <li>Experience and knowledge of administrative law and governance matters within a local government context.</li> <li>Experience of working with Elected Members.</li> <li>Experience and knowledge of employment law and Employment Tribunals.</li> <li>Experience and</li> </ul>	Experience and knowledge of criminal law, civil law, licensing and some other regulatory functions of local authorities, housing law, education law, and the quasi- judicial functions of local authorities.	Application Form, Interview, Written Test and Presentation
Skills and Abilities	knowledge of litigation. Ability to manage and motivate staff and monitor performance	alen 9	Application Form, Interview,

	Excellent communication skills, both written and oral. Ability to work as an effective part of a professional team to deliver complex issues Politically sensitive and able to work closely with Elected Members, Chief Executive, Corporate and other senior managers Competent IT user Effective advocate		Written Test and Presentation
Personal Attributes	Commitment to continuous service improvement Demonstrable leadership qualities and ability to work under pressure to tight timescales and to motivate others to deliver Commitment to the Council's policies on Equality and Diversity	Be willing to undertake further training	Interview
Special Circumstances	Ability to travel to various locations	Full valid driving licence	Application Form and Interview



# **Cardiff Council Behavioural Competency Framework**

# **Supporting the Values of the Council**



# Putting our Customers First (Core)

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 on what needs to be done		ation, enthusiasm and drive	to meet and exceed target	s so that we focus
Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Ensuring tasks are completed to high standard and see them through to completion Contributing to ensure efficient ways of working Monitoring and checking own progress against requirements	Ensuring own and, where applicable, others' outputs meet requirements Identifying and communicating priorities to relevant people Identifying where the right resources and skills are available	Establishing ways of measuring and benchmarking performance Committing required resources and time to deliver and improve results Defining and communicating critical success factors for service delivery	Making decisions and setting priorities on the basis of calculated costs, benefits and risks. Supporting and driving new performance improvement initiatives Seeking, identifying and taking actions to overcome organisational barriers to deliver improved results Recognising and acknowledging the performance of others	Ensuring that performance is focused on continually improving outcomes for customers and the city region as a whole Engaging with internal and/or external partners at a strategic level to ensure that performance is optimised. Taking necessary actions and making hard choices to ensure results are delivered. Identifying and resolving 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)

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Being consistent and fair in dealings with others Rectifying errors and seeking appropriate guidance and	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 values in all activities and interactions
Sharing of all relevant information with others	Supporting and encouraging others to deal with uncertainty, difficulty or change Encouraging others to be fair, open and honest	Speaking out even when it jeopardises a trusted or valuable relationship Seeking to turn difficult situations around	Actively promoting and driving an organisational commitment to public service Ensuring sharing of all relevant information across the organisation Ensuring organisational practices are transparent	Retaining the highest standards of honesty, integrity and respect during periods of significant pressure and difficulties Providing values-based leadership for the development and maintenance of city-region and partnering arrangements

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

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 an respectful behaviour toward others

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# **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	Supporting others to acquire the skills needed for the future in the short, medium and long term	Promoting and encouraging staff development across the organisation Ensure a resource pool to	Predicting changing organisational needs and taking action to ensure people are fully equipped to meet them
	Actively supporting others to develop understanding and/or skills	Giving positive and constructive feedback	meet longer-term talent requirements	Taking a visible and proactive role to
	Mentoring others and sharing knowledge to improve performance	Actively looking for and taking opportunities to coach and mentor others	Develop others to equip them for leadership roles	development high quality leadership and managemer skills across the organisatio
				Understanding and nurturin the skills and behaviours required to optimise partnering arrangements

# Leading Change

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
	<ul> <li>Promoting and being positive about change</li> <li>Seeking opportunities for self and others to contribute to change</li> <li>Helping others to understand the reasons for and the process of change</li> </ul>	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

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

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# **Organisational Awareness**

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
		Identifying and challenging organisational limitations, where applicable	Acknowledging and responding to internal and external forces affecting the organisation	Identifying and optimising decision-making processes in city region and other partnering arrangements
		Identifying both formal and 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 influenc 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	partnersnips, etc.

# 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 whice 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 an ventures, whilst effectively accounting for the risk factor

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# Communicating

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	Selecting most appropriate communication styles, approaches and channels Communicating challenging and contentious messages with openness	Communicating appropriately in response to a crisis or unexpected event where preparation time may be limited. Clearly articulating highly	Communicating and influencing effectively in critical internal and external environments Interpreting accurately what has been said/not said in
5	and easily understood by the intended audience. Capture and share useful information and feedback	Responding openly to challenges and addressing concerns	complex, strategic and conceptual information to others in a meaningful and relevant way	senior level discussions and negotiations: explores the important subtle messages Positions the Council clearly
			Creating an environment and culture that encourages open, honest, timely and effective communication	and credibly when outlining its position Conveys the right message in the right places to secure the desired outcomes

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# Analysing, Problem Solving and Decision Making

Level 1 - What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Making reasoned decisions based on evidence Taking a logical approach to problem solving. Seeking to ensure all known key information is gathered	Exploring a variety of options in order to effectively solve problems and make reasoned decisions. Anticipating the impact that decisions will have on others and taking this into account and implementing solutions. Using appropriate approaches or tools to gather all relevant information in order to take a decision and/or solve a problem	Investigating and evaluating options when making decisions whilst anticipating and assessing short and medium term risks Ensuring solutions to complex problems are realistic and workable. Following through on solutions / decisions, until closure or resolution, to ensure they are understood and implemented by others	Anticipating and assessing long-term and strategic risks, addressing them and helping others to recognise and address them. Creating an environment and culture in which people make decisions and take responsibility for them. Taking appropriate steps to communicate and deal with the impact of decisions on colleagues, customers and/or partners	Looking beyond the immediate issues and placing them within the context of the Councils strategic direction Promoting and nurturing joined-up decision-making ensures key people are communicating and aligning their efforts Undertaking complex strategic analyses and presenting the options to 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	<ul> <li>Promoting and ensuring a culture in which equality and diversity is valued through fair and just service delivery and employment.</li> <li>Advocating and championing equality and diversity within the organisation</li> <li>Engaging equalities communities and stakeholders, and involving them in shaping Council policies and practices</li> </ul>	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**

Level 1 What we stand for	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
-			<ul> <li>Providing higher-level guidance and advice to managers regarding the efficient deployment of resources</li> <li>Taking responsibility for developing skills and attitudes that promote the effective use of resources</li> <li>Encouraging a creative culture, where people look for novel or adapted ways to deliver excellent results more efficiently</li> <li>Taking difficult decisions about services with the priorities of customers being paramount</li> </ul>	Giving strategic direction to senior colleagues about when 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 resource 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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