

Council Offices, Kiln Road, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex SS7 1TF.

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The **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the Borough of Castle Point will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Kiln Road, Thundersley, on **WEDNESDAY**, **18th MAY 2022** at **7 p.m.**, and all Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend to transact the undermentioned business.

Rob Tinlin Interim Chief Executive

AGENDA

PART I (Business to be taken in public)

Before commencing the business of the meeting, prayers will be offered by the Chaplain.

- 1. Apologies for absence
- 2. Members' Interests
- 3. Mayor's Announcements and Presentations
- 4. Election of Mayor*
- 5. Vote of thanks to retiring Mayor
- 6. Election of Deputy Mayor*
- 7. Election of Leader of the Council*
- 8. Appointment of Deputy Leader of the Council*
- **9. Borough Elections Report of the Returning Officer**To receive the report of the Returning Officer which will be circulated separately.
- 10. Political Proportions of the Council and Appointments to Committees etc * -A report is to follow, and details of the Political Groups' wishes will be circulated separately.

11. To receive a report from the Leader of the Council regarding Appointments to Cabinet

Subject to agenda Item 6 a report will be circulated separately.

12. To appoint, if so determined, representatives to serve on outside bodies: *

13. Day and Hour of Meetings

To approve the Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal year 2022/2023. Council and Cabinet meetings are shown marked bold (Details of other meetings and events are marked in italics for information). To be circulated separately.

14. Recommendations to Council – Appointment of Chief Executive: Head of Paid Service

To consider the recommendation from the Staff Appointments Panel held on 3rd May 2022 to appoint Angela Hutchings to the post of Chief Executive Head of Paid Service. A report will be circulated separately.

^{*} Details of nominations for these appointments will be circulated separately.

CASTLE POINT BOROUGH COUNCIL

ELECTION OF BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

IN FOURTEEN WARDS OF THE BOROUGH

18th MAY 2022

REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

As Returning Officer I have pleasure in submitting the following report on the result of the Borough Council Elections held on 5 May 2022, as follows: -

(a) Result

The number of votes for each candidate was as follows: -

Appleton Ward	
JOHNSON, Wayne	732
MCCARTHY-CALVERT, Lynsey	798
ROCHA, Toni	239

Turnout: 34%

Boyce Ward	
BAILEY, Gwyn	196
EDWARDS, Allan	902
FORTT, Jack	783

Turnout 35%

Cedar Hall Ward	
CHASIA, Moreblessing	161
GIBSON, Tom	1056
HAUNTS, Pat	584

Turnout 36%

St George's Ward	
BENSON, Nicola, Lyn	562
DUNHILL, Rosalind	256
MUMFORD, Sue	606

Turnout 32%

St James' Ward	
ISAACS, Godfrey	1030
MEHDI, Dina	618

Turnout 31%

St Mary's Ward		
AINSLEY, Sharon Anne		940
CHAPMAN, Lawrence James		268
DOWNTON, Ben		23
SHELDON, Andrew Graham		737
	Turnout	40%
St Peter's Ward		
BARTON-BROWN, Hannah		750
DROGMANN, Nikki Bianca		664
EMBERSON, William, Frederick		198
	Turnout	32%
Victoria Ward		
BOWKER, Kieron David		1152
HARRISON, Thomas, Francis		181
VARKER, Paul Edward		515
	Turnout	40%

Canvey Island Central301ARNOLD, Amanda301MAY, Peter James700MILLER, Terry George172

Turnout 23%

Canvey Island East		
ACOTT, Alan James		667
CARTEY, Owen Westley		484
REILLY, Jacqueline Constance	_	152
	_	. 070/

Turnout 27%

Canvey Island North	
MCCARTHUR-CURTIS, Margaret Edith	177
HARVEY, Nick	982
ROPER, Adrian	330
_	0.007

Turnout 28%

Canvey Island South	
ANDERSON, Elizabeth	121
DIXON, Eleanor	361
PALMER, Barry Alan	885

Turnout 27%

Canvey Island West	
BLISSETT, Jay	443
COX, Heidi	146
HUNTMAN, Jamie David	431
QUARTERMAINE, Sean Douglas	129

Turnout 28%

Canvey Island Winter Gardens	
CURTIS, Katie Elizabeth	182
GRIEG, Peter Charles	630
STONE, John Andrew Nicol	313

Turnout 23%

Overall turnout

31%

(b) Postal Voting

The number of postal voters on the register was 10,385 and papers to this number were despatched. Up to the close of the poll 7461 had been returned and the number of votes recorded in (a) above included the postal votes which were found to be in order

(c) Return of Expenses

These returns are required from candidates and election agents within 35 days of the election, Friday 10th June 2022.

(d) Declaration

To receive a report as to declarations of acceptance of office as required by statute.

(e) Commentary on the conduct of the Elections

The poll for the Borough Elections was held in all fourteen Wards.

Official polling cards were delivered to all registered electors between 25th March and 10th April in an A5 format and the content as prescribed in election rules. The larger format was customer focused and gave sufficient notice to residents to ensure that they were (a) on the Register of Electors and (b) to apply for either a postal or proxy vote if they were unable to attend at a polling station personally. We were able to return to the arrangements paused last year by covid with the poll cards at this year's election being hand delivered by canvassers to ensure that residents received their cards in a timely fashion and before key deadlines e.g. the closing date for applications for postal votes.

In terms of polling stations, changes made last year remained in place for voters who previously used Hadleigh Junior School moving to St Barnabas Church Hall which became a joint station. Voters previously using Leigh Beck Junior school remained at Canvey Football Club.

As the Paddocks, Canvey Island continues to be used as a covid vaccination centre, the polling station remained at Cisca House. As Runnymede Hall was now available for use the polling Station returned to the Foyer Runnymede Hall.

The Polling Station at King John School moved from the Sixth Form Common Room to more suitable accommodation in a meeting room off the school's main Reception. All voters affected by the change of venue detailed on their Poll cards were notified by letter separately before Polling Day.

The elections were delivered under the system of Individual Electoral Registration (IER) introduced in June 2014. We saw once again a reduction in the number of residents not registered to vote.

As section (b) of this report states, 10,385 postal votes were issued. My elections team had been proactive in encouraging postal voting. The preparation of the postal ballot paper packs was outsourced to a mailing house and these arrangements were both efficient and effective. The delivery by Royal Mail in respect of the mailing of the postal vote packs went smoothly this year.

The receipting of the postal votes was undertaken in house with a dedicated team recruited for the task and I am pleased to report that these arrangements worked well with candidate's representatives able to attend to oversee the process if they wished.

The verification and counting of the votes for the Borough Elections took place on Friday 6th May 2022 was carefully planned by my elections team and delivered timely declarations for each of the fourteen Wards. This was achieved by using dedicated count teams of staff and by placing emphasis on accuracy throughout the verification process and the counting of the votes between candidates.

Reflecting on the successful Count arrangements in May 2021 where staff resources was a key factor. In order to deliver the most timely and accurate results, with best access to staff resources, having taken soundings, I had taken the decision to Count the votes for Borough Elections on Friday.

In taking the decision on the timing of the Count on both occasions I followed Electoral Commission guidance 'the period of time specified for the count to take place should be such that can resource and conduct well run count processes within it ensuing accurate results in which voters, candidates and agents can have confidence'.

There is no legal requirement to count votes in the Borough Elections after the close of the poll. (It is a legal requirement for a Parliamentary Election.) It is what is most practical.

Holding a count on Friday morning is the most practical, it ensures that the count can be properly resourced. While covid restrictions have been lifted it remained a factor to be considered in planning resources for the count. In counting on a Friday morning I was able to call on more staff to assist the process.

All involved in the Elections process – Candidates, Agents, Count and Election staff benefit from a break between close of poll and the commencement of the count on Friday morning as demonstrated by the accuracy and efficiency and speed of the count. In the event of a close result the merits would be obvious.

In responding to concerns regarding the security of ballot boxes overnight after the close of poll, I put in place additional security arrangements in order to demonstrate there had been no interference with the ballot boxes between close of poll and the Count at Waterside Farm. Election Agents were given the opportunity to witness the delivery of ballot boxes to the Council Offices.

Polling Station Inspectors had visited each Polling Station on opening of the Poll and recorded the individual numbers of all seals placed on the ballot boxes. These seals were verified and checked on delivery to the Council Offices after close of Poll.

Additional distinctive new seals were placed on the ballot boxes and recorded before the boxes were stored in a secure location in the Council Offices.

All seals were checked at the Count and were intact.

In conclusion, I am pleased to report that the measures implemented by my elections team worked successfully and contributed to the delivery of timely and robust election results which should have the confidence of the Council, political parties, candidates and the electorate of the Borough.

May I take the opportunity to record my thanks to everyone who assisted in the delivery of these Elections.

Ann Horgan Returning Officer

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

ANNUAL COUNCIL

18TH MAY 2022

Subject: Political Proportions of the Council and Appointment of Committees etc

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To review the allocation of seats to the political groups on the Council.
- 1.2 To appoint Members to serve on the Committees and to appoint the Chairmen under the structure approved by Council designed to respond to the obligations and duties placed on the Council by the Localism Act 2011.

2. Background

- 2.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 places a duty on the Council to review the allocation of seats to the political groups on the Council at the Annual Meeting of the Council or as soon as possible thereafter.
- 2.2 Borough Elections took place this year on 5th May 2022 as a result of which the allocation of seats to the political groups has changed.
- 2.3 In making the appointments to Council, the Council needs to consider the political proportions of the Council. The allocation of memberships on the Committees has to be on the basis of the political proportions of the Council.
- 2.4 It should be stressed that political proportions relate to proportions based on the respective memberships of political groups and not parties. In law, a group has to contain at least two Members.
- 2.5 Notice has been received that the following Members have joined the People's Independent Party Group:
 - Councillor Sharon Ainsley
 - Councillor Hannah Barton- Brown
 - Councillor Kieron Bowker
 - Councillor Allan Edwards
 - Councillor Tom Gibson
 - Councillor Lynsey McCarthy-Calvert
- 2.6 Throughout the calculations on proportions, the figures have therefore been based on the proportions of the Groups to the total membership of the Council i.e. 41 as shown in the following table.

Party	Seats	Proportions for allocation
		purposes
Canvey Island Independent	16	39% (39.02%)
Conservative	15	37% (36.58%)
People's Independent Party	10	24% (24.39%)

3. Appointment to Committees etc

- 3.1 In the remainder of this item relating to the appointment of Committees etc, the above political proportions have been applied and the allocations rounded to ensure compliance with the political balance requirement.
- 3.2 The Council also has to look at the overall allocation across all Committees etc to ensure the individual Committee roundings do not distort the overall balance, and there may have to be some overall adjustment to correct any imbalance caused through the roundings.
- 3.3 The table below shows the total number of seats allocated to each Group: -

Party	Actual Allocation
Canvey Island Independent	33 (32.37)
Conservative	31 (31.71)
People's Independent Party	19 (19.92)
Total	83

4. To appoint Members to serve on the Scrutiny Committee, together with the Policy and Scrutiny Committees and the Chairmen

4.1 The Council is asked to appoint the following Policy and Scrutiny Committees: -

Policy& Scrutiny Committee	Membership total	Canvey Island Independent Group	Conservative Group	People's Independent Party Group
Scrutiny	8*	3	3	2

^{*}Membership to comprise the Chairmen of the Policy and Scrutiny Committees & Audit Committees

Policy Scrutiny Committee	Membership total	Canvey Island Independent Group	Conservative Group	People's Independent Party Group
Environment	10	4	4	2
Wellbeing	10	4	4	2
Place & Communities	10	4	4	2
Total	38	15	15	8

5. To appoint Members to serve on the Audit Committee and the Chairman

5.1 The Council is asked to appoint the following Audit Committee: -

Committee	Membership total	Canvey Island Independent Group	Conservative Group	People's Independent Party Group
Audit	5*	2	2	1

5.2 *Council is also asked to agree that a substitute Member is appointed from the respective Groups on the Audit Committee to ensure that meetings are quorate.

6. To appoint Members to serve on Regulatory Committees and where appropriate Chairmen and Vice Chairmen

6.1 The Council is asked to appoint the following Regulatory Committees:

Committee	Membership total	Canvey Island Independent Group	Conservative Group	People's Independent Party Group
Licensing	15	6 (5.85)	5 (5.55)	4 (3.6)
	Note: the Lic Members of the	_	mmittee will con	sist of any 3

Committee	Membership total	Canvey Island Independent Group	Conservativ e Group	People's Independent Party Group	
Development Management	10	4	4	2	
_	plus 2 Canvo members	ey Town Council	representatives	as non-voting	
Review	8	3	3	2	
	•	plus 2 Canvey Town Council representatives and independent persons appointed pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 as non-voting members			
Staff Appointments Panel	7	3	2 (2.59)	2(1.68)	
Total	38	18	16	11	
Overall Total	83	33 (+1consequence of rounding)	31	19	

- 6.2 With regard to membership of the Development Management Committee Members' attention is directed to the statutory guidance which suggests that full exchange of information between the Executive and the Committee taking the development control decisions is essential. The statutory guidance advises that the Council should consider including a member of the Executive on the membership of the Committee taking development control decisions although he or she should not be the Chairman of the Committee. The Constitution already states that the Cabinet Member shall not be eligible to be the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee.
- 6.3 Details of amendment to the Terms of Reference to the Staff Appointments Panel are to follow to give effect to the legal requirement to protect the Statutory Chief officers of the Council and to give effect to a recent workforce management audit to provide a mechanism for review by Councillors of the Council's overall strategic approach to workforce matters.
- 6.4 Details of the Groups' wishes regarding the appointments will be circulated at the meeting.

Recommendation:

The Council is asked to appoint the Committees as described and confirm the allocations to the political groups as detailed above.

Resolution required.

Background Papers: Report to Council 15.5.2012 Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990

ITEM 13 - CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2022/23

May 2022		
Mondoy	2	MAY BANK HOLIDAY
Monday	3	
Tuesday	4	Development Management Committee -if required
Wednesday	5	POPOLICH COUNCIL ELECTIONS
Thursday	6	BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTIONS
Friday	0	
Monday	9	
Tuesday	10	Conservative Group
Wednesday	11	
Thursday	12	
Friday	13	
Monday	16	
Tuesday	17	
Wednesday	18	ANNUAL COUNCIL
Thursday	19	
Friday	20	
Monday	23	
Tuesday	24	
Wednesday	25	
Thursday	26	
Friday	27	
Monday	30	
Tuesday	31	
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June 2022	1	
Wednesday Thursday	2	JUBILEE BANK HOLIDAY
Friday	3	JUBILEE BANK HOLIDAY
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Monday	6	
Tuesday	7	Development Management Committee
Wednesday	8	Dovolopment Management Committee
Thursday	9	
Friday	10	
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Monday	13	
Tuesday	14	
Wednesday	15	CABINET
Thursday	16	Canvey Island Independent Group
Friday	17	

Monday	20	
Tuesday	21	
Wednesday	22	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	23	Canvey Island Independent Group
Friday	24	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Saturday	25	
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Monday	27	
Tuesday	28	
Wednesday	29	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	30	, and the second
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July		
Friday	1	
Monday	4	
Tuesday	5	Development Management Committee
Wednesday	6	
Thursday	7	Canvey Island Independent Group
Friday	8	·
Monday	11	
Tuesday	12	Conservative Group
Wednesday	13	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	14	
Friday	15	
Monday	18	
Tuesday	19	
Wednesday	20	CABINET
Thursday	21	Audit Committee
Friday	22	
Monday	25	
Tuesday	26	
Wednesday	27	ORDINARY COUNCIL
Thursday	28	
Friday	29	
August		
Monday	1	
Tuesday	2	
Wednesday	3	
Thursday	4	Canvey Island Independent Group
Friday	5	

Monday	8	
Tuesday	9	Conservative Group
Wednesday	10	- Constitutivo Croup
Thursday	11	
Friday	12	
Tiday	12	
Monday	15	
Tuesday	16	
Wednesday	17	
Thursday	18	Canvey Island Independent Group
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Monday	22	
Tuesday	23	
Wednesday	24	
Thursday	25	
Friday	26	
Monday	29	BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday	30	
Wednesday	31	
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September		
Thursday	1	Canvey Island Independent Group
Friday	2	
Monday	5	
Tuesday	6	Development Management Committee
Wednesday	7	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	8	
Friday	9	
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Monday	12	
Tuesday	13	Conservative Group
Wednesday	14	CABINET
Thursday	15	Canvey Island Independent Group
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Monday	26	
Tuesday	27	
Wednesday	28	
Thursday	29	Audit Committee
Friday	30	

October		
Monday	3	
Tuesday	4	Development Management Committee
Wednesday	5	ORDINARY COUNCIL
Thursday	6	Canvey Island Independent Group
Friday	7	.,
Monday	10	
Tuesday	11	Conservative Group
Wednesday	12	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	13	,
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Wednesday	19	CABINET
Thursday	20	Canvey Island Independent Group
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Wednesday	26	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	27	,
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Monday	31	
November		
Tuesday	1	Development Management Committee
Wednesday	2	
Thursday	3	Canvey Island Independent Group
Friday	4	
Saturday	5	
Monday	7	
Tuesday	8	Conservative Group
Wednesday	9	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	10	
Friday	11	
Sunday	13	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
Monday	14	
Tuesday	15	
Wednesday	16	CABINET
Wednesday Thursday	16 17	CABINET Canvey Island Independent Group
Wednesday	16	
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Tuesday	22	
Wednesday	23	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	24	
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Wednesday	30	ORDINARY COUNCIL
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Friday	2	
Monday	5	
Tuesday	6	Development Management Committee
Wednesday	7	Development Management Committee
Thursday	8	
Friday	9	
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Sunday	11	
Carracy		
Monday	12	Canvey Island Town Council Budget Meeting
Tuesday	13	Conservative Group
Wednesday	14	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
Thursday	15	Canvey Island Independent Group
Friday	16	
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Monday	19	
Tuesday	20	
Wednesday	21	CABINET
Thursday	22	
Friday	23	
Saturday	24	CHRISTMAS EVE
Sunday	25	CHRISTMAS DAY
N.4. I		DOVING DAY
Monday	26	BOXING DAY
Tuesday	27	BANK HOLIDAY
Wednesday	28	
Thursday	29	
Friday	30	
January 2023		
Monday	2	NEW YEARS' DAY BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday	3	HEIT I LANG DAT DANK HOLIDAT
Wednesday	4	
Thursday	5	Canvey Island Independent Group
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Monday	9	
Tuesday	10	Development Management Committee
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Wednesday 15 CABINET SPECIAL COUNCIL (6pm) – BUDG SETTING	ET
Thursday 16 Canvey Island Independent Group	
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Tuesday 21	
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Wednesday	22	Scrutiny/PSC/Member Briefings
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Tuesday	2	Development Management Committee – if required
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Monday	29	SPRING BANK HOLIDAY
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Thursday	15	Canvey Island Independent Group

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Friday	18	
Monday	21	
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Monday	28	BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday	29	
Wednesday	30	
Thursday	31	
September		
Friday	1	

Notes

Meetings of the Licensing, Policy and Scrutiny Committees/ Scrutiny Committee or Review Committee will be scheduled in consultation with the Chairman of the relevant Committee.

Meetings and events shown in italics are for Members' information.

^{*} Meetings of the Cabinet begin at 7pm unless otherwise advised.

AGENDA ITEM NO.14

ANNUAL COUNCIL

18th May 2022

Subject: Recommendations to Council -

Appointment of Chief Executive, Head of Paid Service

1. Purpose of Report

To present the recommendations of the Staff Appointment Panel held on 3rd May 2022. Council is requested to approve the appointment of Ms Angela Hutchings to the post of Chief Executive, Head of Paid Service.

2. Links to Council's Priorities and Objectives

The appointment of the Head of Paid Service is not linked to a Council Corporate Priority. The Council has a statutory duty to appoint a Head of the Paid Service, who has overall corporate management and operational responsibility for the Council. That position is carried out within the Council by the post of Chief Executive. Section 4 Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

3. Recommendations

- 1. That Council appoints Ms Angela Hutchings to the post of Chief Executive, Head of Paid Service.
- 2. That on commencement of her appointment as Chief Executive to appoint Ms Angela Hutchings as Returning Officer under the Representation of the People Act 1983 for the conduct of Elections in Castle Point and Local Registration Officer.
- 3. (To endorse the appointment of Mr Robert Tinlin MBE Interim Chief Executive to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Head of Paid Service for a period of up to three months pending the commencement of the appointment of the permanent Chief Executive)

4. Background

- 4.1 At the meeting of the Staff Appointments Panel on 27th January 2022, the Panel agreed that formal steps should commence to recruit a permanent Chief Executive.
- 4.2 To assist the process the Panel considered a short list of recruitment consultants and Penna were appointed.
- 4.3 The recruitment campaign ran through March to April 11th, 2022.

- 4.4 (During this period the Interim Chief Executive Andrew Grant appointed by Council left at the end of his contract with the Council. A meeting of the Staff Appointments panel took place on 7th April 2022 and approved the appointment of Mr Robert Tinlin MBE Interim Chief Executive to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Head of Paid Service and to assist the processes to select a new permanent Chief Executive. Council is requested to endorse the appointment Mr Tinlin.)
- 4.5 The Staff Appointments Panel considered all applications received for the post of Chief Executive and approved the long list of candidates on 14 April 2022. Following technical and broad ranging assessment interviews of the longlisted candidates by the Interim Chief Executive and the recruitment consultants, a meeting of the Panel took place to short list the applications.
- 4.6 A formal meeting of the Staff Appointments Panel took place on 3rd May 2022 during which interviews took place of those candidates on the short list. The outcome of the technical interviews and assessments was used together with the final interviews by the Panel to inform the Panel's decision on a preferred candidate.
- 4.7 Arising from the background assessments and interviews the Staff Appointments Panel agreed unanimously to recommend to Council the appointment of Ms Angela Hutchings, as the Council's next Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service.
- 4.8 The recommended candidate Ms Angela Hutchings has extensive local government, public & private sector and leadership experience. Since November 2017, Ms Hutchings who is currently Strategic Director and Deputy Chief Executive, Rochford District Council and Brentwood Borough Council was Strategic Director of Rochford District Council and was Acting Managing Director of Rochford District Council. Prior to this from October 2012 to November 2017 Ms Hutchings was Assistant /Interim Director for Essex Legal Services (Essex County Council). From March 2011 to March 2012 a senior manager, Commercial Assurance PwC. From March 2006 to March 2011 a freelance Contractor providing legal advice and non-legal commercial assurance. Ms Hutchings began her career as a practising Solicitor between October 1995 to March 2006 holding posts within local government and private law firms.

5. Corporate Implications

(a) Financial Implications

There is financial provision within the Council's approved budget to support the cost of the post of Head of Paid Service

b) Legal Implications

Confirming the appointment of the Head of Paid Service is matter reserved to Council.

The Council has a statutory duty to appoint a Head of the Paid Service, who has overall corporate management and operational responsibility for the

Council. That position is carried out within the Council by the post of Chief Executive. Section 4 Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

(c) Human Resources and Equality Implications

This is addressed by the report.

(d) IT and Asset Management Implications

None to be addressed by this report.

6. Timescale for implementation and Risk Factors

Subject the formal decision of Council it is hoped that Ms Hutchings will be able to take up appointment later this summer. Under the terms of her current employment Ms Hutchings is required to give three months' notice.

7. Background Papers

Agenda Staff Appointments Panel 3. 5.2022 Papers are Exempt under (Exempt Information under Paragraphs 1 & 2 Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972)

Report Author:

Mr Rob Tinlin Interim Chief Executive