

REPORT FROM: INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

TO: EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL

DATE: 19 JUNE 2025

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APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise members of the outcome of a recruitment process to recruit to the role of Chief Executive following the resignation of the former Chief Executive, Rose Rouse.

To seek approval of Council for the appointment of Dean Langton to the position of Chief Executive of Pendle Borough Council.

RECOMMENDATION

To approve the appointment of Dean Langton to the position of Chief Executive of Pendle Borough Council including designation as Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) The Council's interim current Chief Executive currently serves as the Council's Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer.
- (2) Dean Langton, the newly appointed Chief Executive will become the Council's Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer.

ISSUE

1. The post of chief executive is the most senior position within a local authority. The postholder provides overall leadership and vision in developing the strategic organisational direction in accordance with Council policy, budgetary and statutory requirements. They are primarily responsible for the successful delivery of the priorities and ambitions of the Council as set by the elected leadership.

2. The role also requires engagement at county, regional and national levels as a strong advocate for the Council, working closely with local government, central government, commercial partners, statutory agencies, residents, local businesses, and other relevant stakeholders and partners. The proposed changes set out in the English Devolution White Paper mean that in the coming months and years, the chief executive role will be focused on ensuring the borough's interests are well served and that key transition work is well directed, resourced and managed.
3. As the Head of Paid Service, the chief executive has overall responsibility for the management and coordination of the employees appointed by the Council. The post holder is also designated as the Council's Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer, which are separate statutory appointments.
4. Consultants Solace have supported the recruitment process for the substantive role and assisted with selection processes through to final interviews with the Senior Management Appointments Committee held on 30th May, 2025.
5. The Senior Management Appointments Committee, following interviews have recommended Dean Langton as new Chief Executive (Designate) for Pendle BC. Council is asked to approve the appointment of Dean Langton to the position of Chief Executive from 6th October, 2025 including designation as Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: No implications arising directly from this report.

Financial: No implications arising directly from this report.

Legal: By law, the Council is required to have a Head of Paid Service, Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer.

Risk Management: No implications arising directly from this report.

Health and Safety: No implications arising directly from this report.

Sustainability: No implications arising directly from this report.

Community Safety: No implications arising directly from this report.

Equality and Diversity: No implications arising directly from this report.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None