

Supplementary Agenda - Item 4 (Member Question)

People, Performance and Development Committee



Date and Time

Monday, 22 July
2024
3.00 pm

Place

Surrey County
Council, Woodhatch
Place, 11 Cockshot
Hill, Reigate, Surrey,
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AGENDA

4 QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

(Pages
1 - 2)

One Member Question was received. The question and response are included within this supplementary agenda.

Michael Coughlin
Interim Head of Paid Service
Published: 19 July 2024

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People, Performance and Development Committee

22 July 2024

PROCEDURAL MATTERS – MEMBER QUESTIONS

1. Question submitted by Eber Kington

The latest Organizational Chart, translated into a table (see below) shows the number of Officers at Director Level (Tiers 1 to 3) and the wide range in the number of such officers between the Directorates.

Directorates	No. of Directors – Tiers 1 to 3
Highways, Infrastructure and Planning	5
Environment, Property and Economy	5
ASC	7
Children, Families & Lifelong Learning	8
Customer, Digital & Change	8
Finance & corporate Services	8
SFRS	9
Communications and Engagement	11
Total	61

The Council has committed to several Transformation programmes designed to improve services for residents, reduce costs and prepare the organisation for key challenges going forward.

Does the Chairman of the PPDC believe that, with a new Chief Executive about to take up his post, the number of Interims and/or vacant posts within the current organizational structure, the need for savings, and the need to focus on the delivery of core services, it is an opportunity to transform how communications and engagement is delivered in SCC, including a review of the core spend on communications and engagement across the Council?

Reply:

The structure reporting into the Strategic Director Communications and Engagement is included below.



As Members will know the Council keeps the structure under constant review and always looks to achieve the most efficient ways of delivering services.

The incoming Chief Executive has been fully engaged with changes made so far at CLT level and Members have been involved with appointments to these roles. I am sure that Terence will want to discuss with Members his thoughts on the overall structure and would equally want to hear ideas in order that he can put forward structure changes in his capacity as Head of the Paid Service.

It would however, be premature and inappropriate to commit Terence to any changes before he arrives.

Tim Oliver

Chairman of the People, Performance and Development Committee

19 July 2024