

Job Description

Job Title: Executive Director – Economic Growth & Prosperity

Responsible to: Chief Executive

Purpose of Job:

As a member of the Executive Management Team, to provide collective leadership for the council, working collaboratively with Members, services across the council, partners and stakeholders to deliver the council's objectives and priorities.

Lead by example in modelling and embedding the council's core values and behaviours to help build a sustainable, highly effective organisation and develop our reputation as a successful council in delivering our promise of "Putting Residents First" and providing real and lasting value to residents, businesses and communities. Act as a champion for the needs of local people, create an environment to foster organisational agility, creativity and teamwork, where boundaries are pushed and Putting Residents First becomes the DNA of how the Council and associated services operate.

Provide outstanding leadership and direction to a portfolio of services, driving service transformation and ensuring excellent joint working with Members and other stakeholders.

Principle Accountabilities:

1. As a member of the Corporate Leadership Board, shape the direction of the council to drive forward the public service reform agenda and ensure delivery of its priorities and value to residents. Provide a strategic vision for the future development of services to enable the council to meet its future challenges, fostering a culture of continuous improvement.
2. As a senior leader working as part of the distributed leadership network of the council, work together to drive forward and accept collective responsibility for a range of departmental and cross-cutting initiatives which are required to ensure changes are embedded in a sustainable way throughout the organisation. Role model positive leadership behaviours, empowering, engaging and encouraging your teams to live the council values, to facilitate achievement of the corporate vision.

3. Lead the integrated delivery, improvement, management and performance of a portfolio of council services, commissioning and directing activity within the council and externally as required, and ensuring overall objectives are translated into effective plans and that public services are effective, efficient, and locally responsive. Provide inspirational and professional leadership to staff, strengthening skills and competence and fostering a strong culture of standards, performance and accountability.
4. Ensure tight budgetary control and prioritise use of resources and assets to support the delivery of the council's vision and outcomes, and help ensure that the council receives value for money from its expenditure. Drive and/or support the development of outcome based commissioning models to better ensure strong price competition and transfer of risks through contracts with third parties. Champion and drive the development of commercial opportunities.
5. Provide a clear professional lead to and work collaboratively with all partners, securing the agreement, commitment and participation of all relevant agencies, partners and other stakeholders. Foster the bringing together of local services and decisions across agencies to reduce demand and help communities more independently support themselves.
6. Drive business change to build a highly effective organisation, promoting accountability in line with future business needs. Assist the Chief Executive in developing a single council-wide corporate culture to engender a strong and shared approach to delivering services and to provide better support for staff to deliver savings.
7. Ensure that all activities within the directorate comply with the council's constitution, Standing Orders, financial regulations, health and safety and safeguarding responsibilities and that effective systems operate within the directorate to manage performance and risk.
8. Uphold and promote the aims of the council's equality and diversity policies to ensure non-discriminatory practices in all aspects of work, and that diversity is embedded in everything, from workforce planning and policy development to planning service delivery.

Specific responsibilities

1. Lead the Council's economic growth agenda, building strategic relationships with Government and key businesses to build prosperity, deliver economic growth and secure greater revenue returns to support the council's core activities;
2. Oversee the Council's approach to protecting, promoting and enhancing the natural assets of Cheshire East, creating the conditions for heritage, culture and our tourist economy to flourish and grow;
3. Oversee the development and implementation of a new spatial framework that covers planning, regeneration, investment, infrastructure, housing and transport, to maximise opportunities to achieve sustainable growth and supporting infrastructure for successful new and existing communities.
4. Lead the Councils' response to HS2 – delivering a Crewe High Growth City and building partnerships with Government, Network Rail and HS2 Ltd to deliver the Northwest HS2 SuperHub at Crewe;
5. Oversee the delivery of the Council's wider Strategic Infrastructure programme – leveraging investment from private and public sources and ensuring the right infrastructure is in place to deliver the Council's growth ambitions;
6. Lead engagement with Government, regional bodies, funding agencies, developers and, including business sectors, to develop partnerships and facilitate achievement of strategic objectives relating to economic growth and regeneration;
7. Oversee robust arrangements are in place so that the council meets its service objectives for Tatton Park and wider statutory duties in respect of housing, homelessness and planning, ensuring that delivery bodies are held to account for delivering high quality services to residents.