

Appointments & Disciplinary Committee

Meeting of held on Monday, 29 January 2024 at 10.30 am in Room 1.01 and 1.02 - Bernard Weatherill House, Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Jason Perry (Chair);
Councillor Lynne Hale (Vice-Chair);

Councillor Jason Cummings, Stuart King, Enid Mollyneaux and Callton Young

Also Present: Looqman Desai, Deputy Monitoring Officer
Jane West, Corporate Director for Resources (Section 151) Dean Shoesmith, Chief People's Officer Gillian Bevan, Head of Human Resources Adrian May, Interim Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny
Michelle Ossei-Gerning, Democratic Services Office

PART A

8/24 **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies.

9/24 **Disclosure of Interests**

Members confirmed that their entries on the Council's register of interests were up to date and that they had no further disclosures to make.

Councillors Lynne Hale, Callton Young and Chief People's Officer Dean Shoesmith informed the Committee that they were present as a witness to the Hazel Simmonds case at the Employment Tribunal on behalf of the council.

Officers Dean Shoesmith and Jane West informed the Committee that they would withdraw themselves from part 2 in the item relating to staffing matters.

10/24 **Urgent Business (if any)**

There were none.

11/24 **Appointment to the post of Director of Customer Experience & Technology**

The Appointment and Disciplinary Committee considered the Appointment to the post of Director of Customer Experience & Technology.

The Chief People's Officer, Dean Shoesmith shared with the Committee that the key appointment for the council sees the post focused on transforming the council through the use of digital solution technology and seeking to drive better services for residents through improved customary experience. The job evaluation was set through the Hay job evaluation scheme as a grade 3 post from £122,803 to £127,684 which was sufficient to be competitive within the London Market.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1.1. Agree the salary package for the post of Director of Customer Experience & Technology, Grade 3 £122,803 to £127,684.

1.2. Undertake the selection for and agree an appointment to the post of Director of Customer Experience & Technology from the candidate(s) detailed in the Exempt/Part B appendices.

1.3. Note that any appointment will be subject to the appointment notification process set out in section 3.3 of part 4J of the Council's Constitution (Staff Employment Procedure Rules).

12/24

Outcome of the Hazel Simmonds Employment Tribunal Case

The Appointment and Disciplinary Committee considered the Outcome of the Hazel Simmonds Employment Tribunal Case.

The Chief's People Officer Dean Shoesmith shared with the Committee that this matter had concerned with the claimant, Ms Simmonds, making a complaint against the council and the council's Chief Executive Officer for race and sex discrimination, which was dismissed by the Employment Tribunal against the council and the council's Chief Executive Officer. A further claim from the claimant of an unfair dismissal was brought against the council, which was also dismissed by the Employment Tribunal.

With regards to seeking the costs from Ms Simmonds, the Committee was asked to consider the high bar set by the Tribunal on cost recovery, and applications for costs of recovery; further expenditure for the council; the amount it would cost to pursue applications would not be economic or in the public interests; and lastly within paragraph 3.30 to 3.32 of the report which sets out the position the council was in and the costs of the legal process.

Comments from the Committee welcomed the outcome of the Employment Tribunal case and thanked officers involved in the preparation of the case. It was further noted that this case had cost a lot

of money for the council to go through the process and thus was vital for the council to defend in the way they did.

It was further clarified by the Deputy Monitoring Officer, Looqman Desai, that the council was not in a position to not make a further application for the costs, and this decision would be made at officer level. This was unanimously agreed by the Committee.

The Committee RESOLVED to note the outcome of the Hazel Simmonds employment tribunal case.

13/24

Senior Staffing Matters: 1. Review of Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service Pay; 2. Review of Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer Market Supplements

The Appointment and Disciplinary Committee heard that the Part B (exempt) version of this report referred to senior staffing matters, which related to individual terms and conditions of employment, therefore the entirety of this report was heard in Part B.

14/24

Exclusion of Press and Public

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Hale, seconded by Councillor Cummings and agreed by the Committee to exclude the press and public for the remainder of the meeting.

“That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within paragraphs 1, 2 and 5 as indicated in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended”.

15/24

Senior Staffing Matters: 1. Review of Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service Pay; 2. Review of Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer Market Supplements

Please note that a full confidential minute has also been produced for this item, although the resolutions agreed by the Committee are set out in the public minute above.

16/24

Appointment to the post of Director of Customer Experience & Technology

Please note that a full confidential minute has also been produced for this item, although the resolutions agreed by the Committee are set out in the public minute above.

The meeting ended at 10:55am

