

<b>Role Title</b>	<b>Joint Strategic Director Housing, Communities and Environment Reporting to: Joint Chief Executive</b>
<b>Role Purpose</b>	<p>The purpose of this role is, together with the Joint Chief Executive and other members of the Director team, provide the corporate direction and strategic leadership to achieve the aims of Guildford and Waverley Borough Councils ('The Councils').</p> <p>Working collaboratively with colleagues across organisational boundaries and with external partners, the role is expected to make a major contribution to drive the development of council services and improving the quality of life for both Guildford and Waverley residents.</p> <p>This role will provide leadership, engagement and vision for the Councils' managers and staff and guidance to the Joint Chief Executive and Councillors of both Councils to ensure that the collaboration agenda is successful.</p> <p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>This role leads on delivering excellence to our communities and tenants across our portfolio of 10,000 properties, ensuring high standards across our properties, and ensuring they are safe, well maintained and sustainable. The role has accountability for our homelessness and rough sleeping support function, as well as providing a client role for the Housing Revenue Account and the housing delivery programme.</p> <p><b>Communities</b></p> <p>This role promotes inclusion and diversity within the borough, working closely in partnership with our communities and ensuring their engagement and input into identifying solutions to make the boroughs a brilliant place to live, work and do business.</p> <p><b>Environment</b></p> <p>This role champions our commitment to become net zero-zero carbon boroughs by 2030 and will work with our partners and communities to achieve this goal together. It also has responsibility for our environmental services, including waste collection, parks and open spaces, bereavement services and fleet services.</p>
<b>Key Senior Leadership Accountabilities</b>	<p>Accountable for leading and directing council services at a strategic developmental level, this role will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide the strategic leadership for your service areas, empowering the Executive Heads of Service in your directorate to be visibly accountable for operational delivery and continuous improvement of</li> </ol>

- their service areas, developing commercial and business practices.
2. Manage the high performance of Executive Heads of Service ensuring that they work collaboratively, facilitating the drive for transformational change.
  3. Build constructive working relationships with all relevant stakeholders, including staff colleagues, councillors, communities and partners.
  4. Horizon scan, delivering innovation and creative solutions, and keeping abreast of economic, legislative and social development affecting the council
  5. Act decisively to ensure risks associated with your services are effectively managed and mitigated effectively, including the Safeguarding Policy for Children and Adults, Health and Safety, business continuity and the risk of fraud and corruption.
  6. Promote equality and inclusion at all levels of service delivery and employment.
  7. Promote and demonstrate the leadership competencies (see below)
  8. Build high performing services that continuously improve and focus on customer service and value for money.
  9. Lead on key corporate programmes and provide sponsorship for projects being led by Executive Heads of Service.
  10. Drive and champion the transformation and strengthening of the harmonised organisational culture of the Councils ensuring that the Councils' values are lived, and ownership and accountability are embedded throughout your service areas.
  11. Lead the engagement with key strategic stakeholders in your service areas, including those from the statutory, business and voluntary sectors at borough, county and national level.
  12. Deputise for the Joint Chief Executive, as required, ensuring strategic leadership is available as needed during periods of absence and arranging cover as needed for out of hours emergencies.
  13. Attend, as required, meetings of the Councils, Executives, Committees, Special Interest Groups and external meetings.
  14. Represent the Councils (and/or ensure that the Council is represented) externally and to promote and present a positive image to partners, representative bodies and other organisations, as necessary.

	<p>15. Develop positive external working relationships, including developing and maintaining alliances and partnerships.</p> <p>16. Act as sponsor and/or take a leadership role on corporate programmes and projects.</p>
<p><b>Role Specific Accountabilities</b></p>	<p>The role is also accountable for the strategic direction of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Services</li> <li>• Environmental Services</li> <li>• Housing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Dimensions</b></p>	<p><b>Direct Reports:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Head of Community Services</li> <li>• Executive Head of Environmental Services</li> <li>• Executive Head of Housing</li> </ul> <p><b>Budget Responsibility:</b> Shared budget responsibility for both Councils.</p> <p><b>Number of staff approximately:</b> Accountable for up to 350 staff. Shared Responsibility for up to 1000 staff.</p>

### Additional Notes:

1. All work performed and duties undertaken must be carried out in accordance with relevant Council and Service policies and procedures, within legislation and with regard to the needs of our customers and the diverse communities we serve.
2. This document sets out the main dimensions of the job it describes. It does not define all individual tasks, which may be expected to change from time to time to meet strategic and operational needs.
3. This is a politically restricted post. You cannot be elected as a councillor in any local authority whilst employed in this role.

### Health and Safety / Risk Management

1. Ensure that all aspects of the Councils' Health and Safety Policies and Procedures are adhered to.
2. Be responsible for identifying and managing all risks associated with the job role through effective application of internal controls and risk assessments to support the achievement of corporate and service objectives.

3. Be available to assist in Emergency / Disaster Recovery situations.
4. Participate in the Councils' out of hours rota.
5. Adhere to the relevant Councils' constitution.
6. Champion Safeguarding policy and practice.

### **Contacts and Relationships**

In this post, you will have significant contact with Councillors and senior officers of the Council. The Councils' Code of Conduct will apply.

## **Joint Strategic Director Person Specification**

**(please note the below are all essential requirements)**

### **Qualifications**

1. Educated to at least degree level or equivalent experience
2. Demonstrable experience of effective leadership and management in a complex organisation.
3. Evidence of commitment to professional development (CPD), including relevant qualifications for a director of housing.

### **Experience**

1. Strategic level experience, with substantial staff and budgetary responsibility.
2. Experience of strategic commissioning and securing high quality services through different models.
3. Experience of creating collaborative joint working or shared service arrangements with other partners and overseeing their development and on-going success.
4. Proven track record of working successfully in a public sector environment.

### **Knowledge**

1. Detailed understanding of strategic thinking and empowering of senior level direct reports.

2. Knowledge of a range of alternative delivery models, including those with potential income generation.
3. Knowledge of facilitating business transformation based on systems thinking and use of technology.
4. An understanding of, and a commitment to, addressing equality and inclusion issues.

### Skills and Abilities

1. Able to build and maintain effective relationships with elected politicians, such as Councillors.
2. A strong corporate player, able to align with the Councils' values, work collaboratively and develop shared approaches with colleagues across both councils, representing the interests of both Councils fairly and objectively.
3. An enabler, with the ability to manage a wide range of complex issues and agendas at the same time and drive change through influence and diplomacy.
4. Creative and imaginative. Able to see new approaches with an ability to communicate the vision, overcoming obstacles and showing that ambitious goals can be achieved.
5. Able to provide a clear and articulate overview of complex issues and provide sound professional and reliable advice in an accessible and non-technical manner.
6. Commercially aware, recognising the importance of value for money in all Council activity.
7. Able to demonstrate the leadership competencies including being able to lead, motivate and inspire diverse teams of staff, build capacity and promote a highly engaged, high performing staff team who can adapt to change.
8. Able to work collaboratively with external organisations and build alliances and long and short-term partnerships.
9. Excellent communication skills and ability to positively enhance the reputation of the Councils.
10. Ability to work at pace, while managing a complex workload and maintaining your own resilience.

### Leadership Competencies

#### Strategic Thinking:

- Sees the bigger picture
- Predicts future risks and opportunities
- Communicates overall direction
- Adapts to changing circumstances
- Maintains positivity in difficult times
- Supports organisational decisions
- Is comfortable with ambiguity
- Drives innovation and transformation
- Turns vision into tangible plans
- Brings the outside in to the organisation
- Takes time for own professional development
- Works with uncertainty

### **Delivery Through People**

- Engages and motivates people
- Listens and responds appropriately
- Builds relationships with key stakeholders
- Works in partnership within and across Councils
- Builds effective working relationships
- Encourages creativity
- Communicates clearly and appropriately
- Is a positive role model
- Coaches and supports
- Celebrates, encourages and learns from different views and experiences
- Is politically astute
- Negotiates and influences

### **Excellence for Customers**

- Provides good value for money
- Achieves high quality outcomes / results
- Is personally effective
- Focuses on customer service
- Manages conflicting priorities
- Embraces technology
- Manages risk
- Manages peaks and troughs of demand
- Focuses on community and local economy
- Takes a 'digital first' approach

- Takes a learning approach to continuously improve
- Champions collaboration

## **Governance**

- Follows policies, processes, procedures and standards
- Is open, honest, and transparent
- Acts with integrity
- Has strong ethical compass
- Ensures fairness in all dealings
- Builds trust
- Takes accountability and ownership of issues
- Bases decisions on evidence and research
- Is consistent with decision making
- Understands the community and environmental impact of decisions
- Demonstrates financial responsibility