

OFFICER EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURE RULES¹

Recruitment and appointment (Declarations)

1. The Council will draw up a statement requiring any candidate for appointment as an officer to state in writing whether they are the parent, grandparent, partner, child, stepchild, adopted child, grandchild, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece of an existing councillor or officer of the Council; or of the partner of such persons.
2. No candidate so related to a councillor or an officer will be appointed without the authority of the relevant chief officer or an officer nominated by him/her.

Seeking support for appointment.

3. The Council will disqualify any applicant who directly or indirectly seeks the support of any councillor for any appointment with the Council. The content of this paragraph will be included in any recruitment information.
4. No councillor will seek support for any person for any appointment with the Council.

Recruitment of Head of the Paid Service and Chief Officers

5. Where the Council proposes to appoint a chief officer and it is not proposed that the appointment be made exclusively from among their existing officers, the Council will:
 - (a) draw up a statement specifying:
 - (i) the duties of the officer concerned; and
 - (ii) any qualifications or qualities to be sought in the person to be appointed;
 - (b) make arrangements for the post to be advertised in such a way as is likely to bring it to the attention of persons who are qualified to apply for it; and
 - (c) make arrangements for a copy of the statement mentioned in paragraph (a) to be sent to any person on request.

Appointment of Head of the Paid Service

6. Council must approve the appointment of the Head of the Paid Service, following the recommendation of such an appointment by a Committee or Sub-Committee, before an offer of appointment is made to him/her.

Appointment of Chief Officers (and Deputy Chief Officers)

7. A Committee of the Council will appoint chief officers and may appoint deputy chief officers.
8. Chief Officers are those posts designated as such in Article 11.01 of the Council's constitution

Other Appointments

- 9 **Officers Below Chief Officer:** Appointment of officers below deputy chief officer (other than assistants to political groups) is the responsibility of the Head of the Paid Service or his/her nominee, and may not be made by councillors.
10. **Assistants to Political Groups:** Appointment of an assistant to a political group shall be made in accordance with the wishes of that political group.

¹ See the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001

Disciplinary Action

11. Head of the Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer

The Head of the Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer may be suspended whilst an investigation takes place into alleged misconduct. That suspension will be on full pay and last no longer than two months.

12. Independent person.

No other disciplinary action may be taken in respect of any of those officers except in accordance with a recommendation in a report made by a designated independent person appointed in accordance with Regulation 7 of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) England Regulations 2001

13. Other staff

Councillors will not be involved in the disciplinary action against any officer below Deputy Chief Officer except where such involvement is necessary for any investigation or inquiry into alleged misconduct, though the Council's disciplinary, capability and related procedures, as adopted from time to time, may allow a right of appeal to members in respect of disciplinary action.

Dismissal

- (a) Councillors will not be involved in the dismissal of any officer below Deputy Chief Officer except where such involvement is necessary for any investigation or inquiry into alleged misconduct, though the Council's disciplinary, capability and related procedures, as adopted from time to time may allow a right of appeal to members in respect of dismissals.
- (b) No notice of dismissal shall be given to the Head of the Paid Service unless the dismissal is first approved by a meeting of full Council.

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