
CHIEF OFFICERS APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE, 24 July 2025

Present: Cllr Ioan Thomas (Chair)

Councillors: Nia Jeffreys, Elwyn Jones, Anne Lloyd-Jones, Cai Larsen, Dafydd Meurig, Angela Russell, Dyfrig Siencyn, Gwynfor Owen and Menna Trenholme.

Officers: Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), Dylan Owen (Statutory Director of Social Services), Haf Ingman Jones (Human Resources Advisory Services Team Leader), Lowri Haf Evans and Rhodri Jones (Democracy Services Officers).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Annwen Hughes, Medwyn Hughes, June Jones and Beth Lawton.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

- Councillor Cai Larsen as he was a member of the Board of Adra.
- Councillor Elwyn Jones noted that, although he was a Local Member for Peniarwaun, he did not know any of the candidates in a personal context.
- Councillor Anne Lloyd Jones noted that she was distantly related to one of the candidates.

Members considered that their interests were not prejudicial.

3. URGENT ITEMS

None to note.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chair signed the minutes of a meeting of this committee held on the 8 July 2025, as a true record.

5. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item due to the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12, Section 4, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972. This paragraph applies as the report contains information about specific individuals who have the right to privacy. There is no public interest that calls for disclosing personal information about these individuals. Consequently, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

6. INTERVIEWING APPLICANTS FOR THE POST OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR

The order of the day was confirmed with the Members.

Four applicants were interviewed for the post of Corporate Director.

The applicants were invited to give a presentation of between 10 and 15 minutes on the subject,

"What in your opinion are the main challenges facing Cyngor Gwynedd during this next phase? How will you use the solution-based approach way of thinking to support the Chief Executive to ensure that the Council copes with these challenges and delivers the Members' vision?"

They responded to five formal questions asked by the Chair, Councillor Ioan Thomas, together with follow-up questions from the Members.

Mr Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), was invited to present brief feedback on the performances of the four candidates in a series of pre-interview assessment activities. The results of the completed psychological tests and exercises were presented, which had been completed via the Edgecumbe company, as well as the response to a professional interview with the Chief Executive and the Corporate Director, a television interview and a task with the Members.

Each candidate was discussed in turn

It was proposed and seconded to offer the post to Catrin Thomas.

RESOLVED to appoint Catrin Thomas to the post of Corporate Director

The meeting commenced at 10:00 and concluded at 16:10