

**Meeting date:** 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**Report to:** Full Council



**Subject/report title:** **Appointment of Director of Children's Services**

**Report from:** Nick Page  
Chief Executive  
npage@solihull.gov.uk

**Report author/lead contact officer:** Adrian Cattell  
Head of Human Resources  
acattell@solihull.gov.uk

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**Wards affected:**

- All Wards |  Bickenhill |  Blythe |  Castle Bromwich |  Chelmsley Wood |  
 Dorridge/Hockley Heath |  Elmdon |  Kingshurst/Fordbridge |  Knowle |  
 Lyndon |  Meriden |  Olton |  Shirley East |  Shirley South |  
 Shirley West |  Silhill |  Smith's Wood |  St Alphege

**Public/private report:** Public

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**1. Purpose of Report**

To seek Council approval to make an appointment to the statutory role of Director of Children's Services.

**2. Decision(s) recommended**

That the decision of the Appointment Panel to appoint Pete Campbell to the position of Director of Children's Services in accordance with Section 18 (1) of the Children Act 2004, be formally ratified by Council.

**3. What is the issue?**

3.1 Section 18 (1) of the Children Act 2004 places a duty on all Children's Services Authorities in England to appoint a Director for Children's Services (DCS). The appointment of the Director of Children's Services is not a function of the executive and therefore the decision must be made by Full Council.

3.2 A recruitment process to appoint a new Director of Children's Services was concluded on 30 June 2022.

- 3.3 Following a long listing exercise six candidates, two of which withdrew, were put forward for technical interviews. Three of the candidates were then taken forward and completed executive management scenarios and occupational personality exercises. One candidate then withdrew and the remaining two attended an assessment day on 28 June 2022. The assessment day comprised of a meeting with the Leader and Cabinet Member, as well as the Corporate Leadership Team and interviews with a Stakeholder/Partner Panel and Young People Panel.
- 3.4 One candidate was taken forward for an interview with the Leader, Cabinet Member, Chief Executive and Director of Resources and Deputy Chief Executive followed by a final interview with the Appointment Panel on 30 June 2022. The Appointment Panel unanimously agreed to offer the position to Pete Campbell, who is currently Assistant Director for Children and Family Services at West Berkshire Council.
- 3.5 Subject to Council approval of the appointment, Tim Browne will continue as Acting Director until Pete Campbell takes up his duties in approximately October 2022 at which point the statutory functions of the role of the DCS will transfer.