

Dear Potential Candidate

I'm pleased the advert for Chief Executive of Forest of Dean District Council whetted your appetite and made you want to learn more about this fantastic opportunity for the right person to play a pivotal role in shaping the council's future and its ongoing success.

Located at the border where England surrenders to Wales our district is already a special place and somewhere we're proud to call home. Parts of it are simply awe-inspiring. It will be great if your leadership, energy and passion are the same.

Your positive and progressive leadership will carry on fostering an inclusive organisational culture. With its service delivery partner Publica, and others, we're looking for you to build on the 'one team, one council' approach, evidenced by the supportive, collaborative relationships with members, colleagues and partners.

Often described as punching above its weight, the council is hugely aspirational for its communities and wants someone who can drive forward further improvements and keep a strong focus on high quality services and outcomes for its residents, businesses and visitors.

For example, Forest of Dean was the first district council in England to declare a climate emergency; and is the only UK representative in the EU-funded AURORA project, empowering a new generation of near zero-emission citizens.

To help meet its aspirations you'll need to make sure the council continues its excellent progress towards financial stability, through innovative transformation, commercial thinking and doing things differently. You'll have a strong and talented leadership and finance team to support you in this.

If you're still interested in joining a strong and ambitious council that will provide you with some great opportunities to influence and make a big difference please take a good look at the recruitment pages. If you choose to apply, I wish you every success!

If you are appointed, a natural playground awaits you in your downtime. Whether you're seeking a peaceful retreat or an action-packed adventure, the Forest of Dean truly is a place where you find your freedom.

Andrew Grant

Interim Head of Paid Service