

Interim Deputy Chief Executive –Summary / Context Statement

About Ryedale District Council (RDC)

Ryedale District Council is an ambitious and forward thinking Council, resolute in our commitment to the communities of Ryedale. RDC are committed to continually achieving our established direction and vision, to ensure we keep delivering what matters for Ryedale; through prioritising and achieving sustainable growth, focussing on customers and communities and demonstrating a 'One Ryedale' approach.

RDC provide services for approximately 53,000 residents, local businesses and the many visitors to the area. Ryedale district covers an area of 575 square miles and is one of the seven districts that make up North Yorkshire.

About the role

A unique opportunity has arisen for an Interim Deputy Chief Executive to help lead, shape and influence services for the thriving communities of Ryedale. Accountable to the Chief Executive, the role has a key strategic leadership responsibility to support the delivery of Council strategies. Building a culture of high performance and accountability that inspires people and supports the delivery of the Council's objectives, instilling a sense of positivity, purpose and responsibility in addition to forging strong partnerships with partners.

The post holder will lead a wide variety of complex and high profile projects; ensuring their delivery is high quality, responsive, efficient and effective; and managing competing deadlines by continuous planning, monitoring, analysing and assessing all that is necessary, to meet goals and objectives.

The post holder will have leadership responsibility for key areas of the business, assuming line management responsibility for the Heads of Service leading these areas – Streetscene, Planning, Customer Service, Economic Growth, leisure, tourism, IT, programmes & projects, commissioning and asset management. Therefore it may be helpful if the post holder has experience within these areas.

The post holder will represent and promote the Council's interests and build strong working relationships with Elected Members by providing timely, accurate and pragmatic strategic advice, guidance; supporting the wider leadership and governance of the council.

The post holder will drive the development and delivery of the Council's business planning framework, ensuring an effective and appropriate Performance and Quality framework, delivery plan and culture is in place.

The post holder will encourage, co-operation and collaboration with partners within the public and other sectors to deliver integrated, cost-effective services to Council stakeholders, while fostering positive relationships with all local agencies, businesses and partners, representing the Council at regular meetings and consultations and upholding the Council's corporate reputation and influencing stakeholders.

About the post holder

To be successful in the role the post holder will:

Have a proven track record of leading complex and high profile services and major projects within or delivering to the public sector.

Have vision, leadership and the strategic drive to meet challenges head on, while influencing and shaping an environment that is refocusing and addressing key areas of development.

Be an excellent people manager, able to encourage ideas and lead and champion innovation, in particular working across teams and with other partnerships to promote effective service delivery and a strong performance culture.

Have a high degree of knowledge and experience, with a strong portfolio of achievement and a successful track record in leadership, transformational change, decision making, policy implementation, financial awareness and performance measurement and contract management.

Key areas of focus during the 12 month assignment are as follows:

- Building relationships across the workforce, and motivating and empowering all of our employees to be the best they can be. You will work with the Chief Executive and staff champions to invigorate the Council's working environment, and support the workforce to be happy and healthy.
- Driving forward a planned and transparent approach to programme management, ensuring that a number of complex, high profile projects are scoped, consulted upon and moved forward. RDC is exploring how we move forward with a Public Services Hub so that our staff and partners can operate in a modern working environment that meets our customer needs. We are also exploring how we support the delivery of a relocated livestock market / food hub, which will support Ryedale to capitalise on its food capital status. The Deputy Chief Executive will be the commissioning officer for both of these high profile projects, ensuring that objectives are achieved and appropriate allocation of resources occurs to support efficient and effective delivery.
- Shaping, influencing and leading in a working environment that is refocusing and addressing key areas of development. Health checks have recently been conducted across a number of key areas of the RDC's business and the Deputy Chief Executive will need to address the recommendations so they are completed within timescales.
- Working with elected members efficiently and effectively – building strong and collaborative partnerships. As DCX, you will proactively communicate with and supply elected members with the information they need to make strategic decisions. This includes supporting arrangements for member development where this is relevant to your area of responsibility and assuming lead responsibility for one of the Council's Committees. This will be determined by your area of interest and your background and experience.
- Assessing, identifying, brokering and putting arrangements in place that will strengthen service delivery at procedural, operational and strategic levels; this includes in-house capacity and shared services that offer best value and are efficient and effective. Working with employees and Elected Members, you will support the review of and recommend how key areas of the business move forward to support operational delivery.
- Supporting the delivery of district and any other elections that occur during your period of employment; this includes acting as one of the Council's Deputy Returning Officers.