

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole – Chief Executive

Having completed the most complicated local government reorganisation in 40 years, transformed services and achieved political and financial stability, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) is a council on the up. And we're ready to embrace the opportunities on the horizon for our residents, businesses, partners and visitors.

We're looking for a new Chief Executive who has the drive and energy to build on these strong foundations and take us to the next exciting era of sustainable growth, strong partnership working and flourishing communities.

A unique blend of outstanding natural environment, proud heritage and diverse, vibrant communities, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole is a fantastic place to live, work, visit and invest in.

With over 400,000 residents, three universities, two hospitals, multiple heritage assets including a castle, priory and beautiful natural environment, international conference centre, an airport and a commercial port, it's an area brimming with prospects and potential.

Businesses recognise this and are investing – from premium restaurants opening in Bournemouth to fintech firms expanding in Poole and a thriving town centre in Christchurch, we are home to over 15,500 businesses.

And the future is exciting – we have several sites ripe for regeneration, including a former power station site in Poole and key locations in Bournemouth.

We're also proud of our natural spaces – from 15 miles of south-facing sandy beach and the second largest natural harbour in the world, to 19 Sites of Special Scientific Interest and 2,500 hectares of greenspace. We're working with partners to support nature recovery, reduce our carbon emissions and create spaces where nature and people can thrive.

And at BCP Council we want to make the most of these natural assets and committed communities of residents and businesses to create a place where people, nature, coast and towns come together in sustainable, safe and healthy communities.

Our residents have a strong sense of pride and belonging and our businesses are committed to growth and investment in the area. Our partners across the public sector, charities and community groups all want to see our people and region flourish and we're working together to achieve that ambition.

BCP Council has grown to become a forward-thinking, modern, innovative



organisation designed to meet the future needs of our residents, businesses and partners. Our Transformation Programme is almost complete, embedding new systems, data-led decision-making and efficiencies across all departments, while also achieving considerable savings.

But more than the new processes, structures and approach, we've built a council that puts people at the heart of all we do, listens and acts on feedback, and works with partners to make the most of all our strengths.

We're open, transparent and

accountable and don't shy away from challenges as we strive to get the best for our residents.

And we've established the building blocks of a clear vision and corporate strategy, good financial management and a positive workplace culture.

The results of this hard work are starting to show. Our Children's Services leaped from 'inadequate' to 'good' in just three years, we're one of six flagship locations for Homewards (the Royal Foundation's programme to end homelessness) and we won The MJ Award for Best Transport

Decarbonisation Project in 2023.

Council Leader, Millie Earl, said: 'We've built strong foundations – now we want to move forward with our agenda of sustainable and inclusive growth, place-based regeneration and community-focused development.'

'We know we will face more challenges in the future – from funding SEND and understanding changes to the social care sector, to building houses within the geographical restraints of our area. We need to keep scanning the horizon and working with Government to understand the

national changes that could affect our local residents, businesses and partners.

'BCP Council is ready to make the most of our own and our area's potential by putting people at the heart of what we do and driving forward our ambitions for the three towns. Our "Vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole" sets out our plans for the next few years and we're determined to deliver value for money for those that depend on us while respecting the identities and heritage of our three towns that make up the urban conurbation.'

Working with our public sector partners, businesses, charities and community groups is key to this success and we want a visible, energetic Chief Executive to inspire collaboration with residents, businesses and partners alike.

From continuing to drive innovation and a data-led approach, to being a champion for the Council and the towns, we're looking for someone who can make the most of opportunities, identify blind spots and navigate challenging financial and political environments with ease.

'Most of all,' Millie continues, 'we want someone as passionate about our towns, natural environment and local democracy as we are.' ■



Millie Earl – Leader, BCP Council

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'So we're looking for a Chief Executive who can take forward our sustainable growth agenda, proactively engage with our communities and partners, and negotiate our complex political environment.'

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BCP Council is bold, ambitious, and financially strong. Responsible for three towns brimming with potential, over 400,000 residents and 15,500 businesses, we put people at the heart of everything we do. We've transformed services, achieved financial stability, and built firm foundations. Now, we need an exceptional leader to drive us forward.

This is a career-defining opportunity to lead one of the UK's most exciting and unique unitary authorities. We're looking for a strategic,

financially astute, and politically adept Chief Executive who can inspire teams, engage communities and partners, and push boundaries. With a thriving economy, stunning natural environment, and proud communities, this is a place where leadership truly makes an impact.

If you're ready to shape the future of a high-performing, forward-thinking urban coastal authority, talk with our retained recruitment partners at Penna:

- **Rachael Morris** on **07840 711217**
- **Julie Towers** on **07764 791736**

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