

Office of the Chief Executive

Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, London, W8 7NX

Chief Executive

Barry Quirk



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

Cllr Elizabeth Campbell, Leader of the Council

Tuesday 25th January 2022

I should like to advise you of my intention to resign from my position of chief executive later this year - most probably in August. I plan to continue in my role until after the fifth anniversary of the Grenfell Tower tragedy on June 14; and after the conclusion of the Public Inquiry's hearings, most likely in July of this year.

I hope that this gives you sufficient time to appoint a chief executive who can bring new management leadership that will help you take the Council forward. With officer support, you will be able to commence a search process for my successor shortly, such that the process could be finalised after the elections in May. This will mean that your new chief executive can be appointed by the new Council.

It has been a genuine privilege to have had the opportunity to work here in Kensington and Chelsea. I initially came for a few weeks in the summer of 2017, to stabilise the organisation's management. By this summer, I will have been here for five years, helping you to reinvent the Council: its governance, values, policy priorities and management. As you know, there remains much that still needs to be done. And continuing with this process of change is vital.

Above all, it has been an enormous privilege to have been afforded the opportunity of supporting the recovery of those bereaved, survivors and residents of the Grenfell tragedy. As a Council we have achieved a good deal but we have so far to go to support these individuals and families over the coming years. I remain in awe of their dignity, humanity and positivity for the future. There is so much more we need to do to support each of them along their personal routes to recovery.

It has been an honour to work with such a talented and dedicated team of staff, here at the Council. Staff have been brilliant in their intrinsic drive to provide ever better services to the communities that we serve. Our staff possess a strong appetite for change and improvement, and they display real adaptability in the face of new challenges. I have learnt an enormous amount from them.

Elizabeth, it has been a great pleasure to have worked so closely with yourself over this period. The political leadership you provide is exemplary, compassionate and inclusive. Thank you so much for the collegial way which you work with senior managers, respecting their perspectives while also making sure that we are made ever more accountable to the communities that we serve. Thank you also for your personal support to me throughout this entire period.

Finally, in my last few months here, let me assure you that I will work with as much focus and determination as I possessed in my starting months here. Until such time as my successor is in place, the Council can rely upon my full attention and energy.

Yours sincerely,

Barry Quirk
chief executive