

PUBLICA

INTRODUCING PUBLICA

Publica is a company created and owned by four Councils to deliver great services locally.

OUR AMBITIONS

Although the catalyst for creating Publica was the requirement to save costs, the Councils see this as an opportunity to benefit from shared working, shared expertise and shared resources. Our ambitions for Publica are:

- To be a great service provider
- To be a great place to work
- To support our member councils to deliver their ambitions
- To be a growing and improving company

OUR VALUES

What brings us together as a team from all four Councils are our shared values. At Publica we put our customers first. We provide excellent service to our local communities, the councils and clients we support and our colleagues. Our aim is to have a reputation for service that is second to none, and we do that by staying true to our shared values. This is the way we work and how we make our customers smile. These values are:

AUTHENTIC We act genuinely and transparently. We do the right thing for our customers, our organisation and each other.

MODERN We are not set in our ways. We are constantly looking to find ways to innovate and do things smarter.

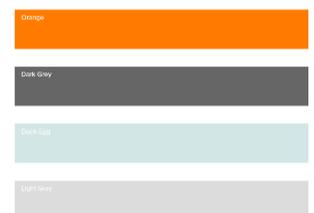
FLEXIBLE We are agile – adapting how and what we do to meet the demands of our customers, our colleagues, our local communities and the needs of the modern world.

THOUGHTFUL We take pride in delivering a great service, taking the time to understand and care about our customers and their needs.

OUR BRAND

The Publica brand will be used when recruiting new employees, internally as the employer of staff and with suppliers. The four Council brands will remain as they are and be the brand that the public see. The Publica brand has deliberately been created to be different and distinctive to avoid confusion and create a strong identity for all employees.

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ABOUT PUBLICA

Four partner Councils: Cheltenham Borough Council, Forest of Dean, Cotswold and West Oxfordshire District Councils have created Publica Group Ltd to deliver more efficient and improved services.

In November 2017, employees from Forest of Dean, Cotswold and West Oxfordshire District Councils, transfer into Publica and continue to provide services for local residents. The Councils will continue to be responsible for the standard of services that are provided as well as setting strategy, policy and making decisions.

So why are the Councils doing this?

The purpose is to create more value through improving efficiency and reducing costs, while at the same time improving services. Creating one company with staff from each Council will reduce the cost of management and administration and provide the opportunity to share workloads, learn from each other and benefit from shared expertise and knowledge.

Ultimately, the aim is to deliver a better more cost effective service.

The benefits of partnership and shared services aren't new to the Councils. This month sees the 9th anniversary of a very successful partnership with West Oxfordshire and Cotswold to share a Chief Executive and subsequently share a range of managerial and support services with combined savings subsequently growing to around £1.9m a year.

In 2012, the Councils took the partnership a stage further by creating Gloucestershire & Oxfordshire Shared Services (GO Shared Service) along with the Forest of Dean and Cheltenham Councils. GO Shared Service provides a shared human resources, finance and payroll function.

In 2016, the shared services were extended to include ICT, public protection, building control, legal, property and customer services and moved into a Joint Committee established to oversee the partnership and to take it on the next stage of its journey.

During the last decade, the Councils have learnt how to make the most of collaboration and partnership, they've seen the savings it can generate while benefiting the services they offer.

Realising that this was the way to deliver the savings required of local authorities, without services suffering, the Councils have created Publica and that's where their partnership journey continues.

The Councils together are expecting to see savings of around £5.6 million per year by 2020, and £41 million in total over the next ten years.

THE BOARD

The Publica Board is made up of four Executive Directors, four Non Exec Directors and a Councillor. This provides a great balance of accountability, Council knowledge and external experience and insight.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

David Neudegg Managing Director

David joined West Oxfordshire as their Chief Executive in 2007 having previously held senior roles in Salisbury and Poole. In 2008, he became shared Chief Executive with Cotswold District Council leading the extensive shared services agenda for the two councils. In 2015 he was appointed Managing Director of the 2020 Partnership to lead the programme of shared services for the four councils and has recently been confirmed as the Managing Director for Publica.

Sue Pangbourne Executive Director

Sue joined Forest of Dean District Council in 2008 as Strategic Director and has been the Council's Head of Paid Service since 2009. She has previously worked for three other local authorities at Unitary, County and District level, in environmental and corporate policy roles, before becoming a senior manager. Before her local government career, she was the first employee of Friends of the Earth Cymru (Wales), supporting local authorities and other organisations with their environmental projects and recycling schemes. Sue has recently been appointed as Publica's Director for Service Delivery.

Christine Gore Executive Director

Christine joined the partnership as Strategic Director for both West Oxfordshire and Cotswold in June 2015. Before then she was Director of Business Services at Aberdeenshire Council. Previously she was the Director of Planning and Environmental Services, and also Corporate Services at Aberdeenshire Council. She has also worked for several local authorities including South Oxfordshire, Waveney, Manchester and Liverpool City. Christine has operated at a Director level for over 14 years (10 of which with a Planning focus). She is a qualified Planner and has extensive further post-graduate qualifications in management and business studies.

Frank Wilson Executive Director

Frank has worked in local government finance for 32 years, with 11 years as Chief Financial Officer at West Oxfordshire District Council, the last eight of which have been shared with Cotswold District Council. He has led the Councils' approach to efficiency across a number of workstreams including commercialisation. For the last two years he has been Head of Paid Service for both Councils and will lead on finance and resources for Publica.

NON EXEC DIRECTORS

David Brooks

Chairman

David has worked in the food industry for nearly 30 years including nine years with Brake Bros and 11 in the baking industry. Between 2002 and 2008 he was Chief Executive of Finsbury Food Group plc. He left this role in 2008 and decided to undertake a Non-Executive portfolio of work, which also included a four year spell as the Chief Executive of Sussex County Cricket Club, cricket being one of his passions. He said the role of NED for Publica Group looked interesting and it resonated with him as his first job was at Kent County Council as a trainee accountant.

Steve Anderson Dixon

Non Exec Director

Steve has nearly 40 years' experience in the media, with 28 years for Northcliffe Media where he was Divisional Managing Director responsible for print and digital titles across the South West & Wales including The Citizen and Gloucestershire Echo, and five years at Trinity Mirror where he was Chief Operating Officer and responsible for all the regional newspapers and websites. He now has a portfolio of Non-Executive roles including the British Veterinary Association. In addition Steve runs a property investment business with his wife.

James Towner

Non Exec Director

James works for Capita as a Strategic Engagement Director. He has spent more than 20 years working in customer service transformation for organisations including Thames Water and HSBC. He was Chief Operating Officer for the Research Council's shared service centre, when the seven UK Research Councils created a new approach to sharing services.

Rosa Stewart

Non Exec Director

Rosa has 8 years' experience in energy in public and private sectors. She is a qualified solicitor by professional background and has advised energy and infrastructure project developers at the leading global firm Clifford Chance. Rosa has also led a power sector reform programme in Nigeria. Currently she works in the Government's industrial strategy unit. She is interested in helping develop new projects and initiatives, particularly to do with the environment and energy.

Wendy Flynn

Non Exec Director

Wendy has been a Councillor on Cheltenham Borough Council for 15 years, including a year as Mayor.