

City of York Council to Appoint New Chief Executive as Ian Floyd Announces Retirement

Friday 4 July, 2025

City of York Council has announced that Ian Floyd, Chief Operating Officer and Head of Paid Service, will retire at Easter 2026 after dedicating more than 17 years of service to the city.

A key figure in York's recent history, Ian has served as Chief Operating Officer since 2020 and has been instrumental in delivering transformational projects and guiding the council through significant challenges. Under his leadership, the council successfully navigated the COVID-19 pandemic, maintained a balanced financial position despite national funding pressures, and oversaw the adoption of York's first Local Plan in over 70 years. He helped secure an 'Outstanding' Ofsted rating for Children's Services in 2024, played a key role in establishing the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, the York Central development and the completion of the York Community Stadium.

Recruitment for a new Chief Executive will begin in the coming weeks, following approval at Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee later this month. Subject to approval, the new Chief Executive will take up the statutory role of Head of Paid Service and will lead the organisation into its next chapter, working closely with elected members, partners, and communities to deliver on the Council Plan and York's long-term ambitions.

Claire Douglas, Leader of City of York Council, paid tribute to Ian, saying:

"Ian has dedicated the last 17 years of his working life to York, including as Head of Paid Service since 2019. He has provided calm, consistent and visionary leadership through periods of uncertainty and change. His commitment to public service, his support for staff, and his passion for the city have made a lasting impact. I thank him sincerely for his dedication and service."

Reflecting on his decision to retire, Ian Floyd said:

"It has been a privilege to serve City of York Council and to work alongside so many talented and committed colleagues to deliver lasting improvements for the city. From the adoption of our first Local Plan in decades, to the launch of the Combined Authority and the transformation of services for children and families, I'm incredibly proud of what we've achieved together. This decision is a personal one, and I'm making the announcement now to allow for a smooth transition."

The new Chief Executive is expected to be appointed later this year, with a planned start date in spring 2026. Full details of the recruitment process will follow on the council's website.

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