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### Bristol City Council Human Resources Committee

20 July 2023 at 5pm  
Public Forum



## Questions

### Q1: Suzanne Audrey

I was sorry to read that the Executive Director of Children and Education is leaving her post, especially as it has been reported that she had taken a “no nonsense” approach to rebuilding bridges with Bristol Parent Carers.

What steps will be taken to minimise the disruption caused from losing the Executive Director of Children and Education after such a short period in post?

### **Response:**

We would like to congratulate Abi Gbago on her appointment as Chief Executive for Newham Council and thank her for the role she has played in driving transformation in the Children and Education division during the time she has been with us in Bristol. We wish her every success in her new role.

We continue to have a strong and capable senior leadership team in the Childrens and Education Division. The Executive Director role is supported by a Director of Education and Skills, a Director of Children, Families and Safer Communities and a Director of Childrens and Education Transformation, who together with Cabinet Member Cllr Asher Craig will continue to drive forward the ambitious plans for improving outcomes for children and families in Bristol.

Reena Bhogal-Welsh has recently been appointed as the permanent Director of Education and Skills and will continue to lead our work in education alongside Bristol Parent Carer Forum and other partners.

The Chief Executive is currently considering the next steps for the recruitment of a new Executive Director and any interim arrangements that need to be put in place.

We will keep HR Committee updated on progress.