



## CABINET

Tuesday, 06 June 2023

<b>Subject</b>	Appointment of a Director and Alternate Director of Freeport East Limited
<b>Report by</b>	Councillor Caroline Topping Leader of the Council
<b>Supporting Officers</b>	Kate Blakemore Strategic Director <a href="mailto:kate.blakemore@eastsuffolk.gov.uk">kate.blakemore@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</a>  Chris Bing Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer <a href="mailto:chris.bing@eastsuffolk.gov.uk">chris.bing@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</a>  Nicola Wotton Deputy Democratic Services Manager <a href="mailto:nicola.wotton@eastsuffolk.gov.uk">nicola.wotton@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</a>

Is the report Open or Exempt?	OPEN
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Category of Exempt Information and reason why it is <b>NOT</b> in the public interest to disclose the exempt information.	Not applicable
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	Western Felixstowe Eastern Felixstowe

## Purpose and high-level overview

**Purpose of Report:**

To approve the appointment of a Director and Alternate Director of Freeport East Limited

**Recommendation:**

1. That Councillor David Beavan be appointed as East Suffolk Council's Director of Freeport East Limited.
2. That Chris Bally, Chief Executive of East Suffolk Council, be appointed as East Suffolk Council's Alternate Director of Freeport East Limited to attend Board meetings in place of the Director when they are unable to attend.

## Corporate Impact Assessment

**Governance:**

To make the necessary appointments to the Freeport East Director position will enable them all to carry out their work, as planned.

**ESC policies and strategies that directly apply to the proposal:**

None.

**Environmental:**

None.

**Equalities and Diversity:**

Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) have been carried out, as appropriate. No adverse impacts have been identified.

**Financial:**

The cost of the Freeport East Director has been budgeted for by Finance.

**Human Resources:**

There are no HR implications for the organisation.

**ICT:**

No impact.

**Legal:**

The Freeport East Director is a statutory post and must be appointed to.

**Risk:**

There are no particular risks identified with these proposals

**External Consultees:**

None on this occasion

## Strategic Plan Priorities

Select the priorities of the <a href="#">Strategic Plan</a> which are supported by this proposal: (Select only one primary and as many secondary as appropriate)		Primary priority	Secondary priorities
<b>T01</b>	<b>Growing our Economy</b>		
P01	Build the right environment for East Suffolk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
P02	Attract and stimulate inward investment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P03	Maximise and grow the unique selling points of East Suffolk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
P04	Business partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P05	Support and deliver infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>T02</b>	<b>Enabling our Communities</b>		
P06	Community Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P07	Taking positive action on what matters most	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
P08	Maximising health, well-being and safety in our District	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P09	Community Pride	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>T03</b>	<b>Maintaining Financial Sustainability</b>		
P10	Organisational design and streamlining services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P11	Making best use of and investing in our assets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P12	Being commercially astute	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P13	Optimising our financial investments and grant opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P14	Review service delivery with partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>T04</b>	<b>Delivering Digital Transformation</b>		
P15	Digital by default	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P16	Lean and efficient streamlined services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P17	Effective use of data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P18	Skills and training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P19	District-wide digital infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>T05</b>	<b>Caring for our Environment</b>		
P20	Lead by example	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
P21	Minimise waste, reuse materials, increase recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P22	Renewable energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P23	Protection, education and influence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>XXX</b>	<b>Governance</b>		
XXX	How ESC governs itself as an authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>How does this proposal support the priorities selected?</b>  The appointment of an East Suffolk Councils Director to Freeport East enables East Suffolk Council to have input the strategic direction of Freeport East development and for monitoring to ensure the effective delivery of the interventions and strategy of Freeport East.			

## Background and Justification for Recommendation

1 Background facts	
1.1	Freeport East was announced in March 2021 as one of eight Freeports in England. It became a 'live' Freeport in December 2021 after government approved the Outline Business Case (OBC) and the three Tax Sites and 7 Customs Sites. The anticipated sub-regional economic benefits from Freeport East are significant and include 13,500 new jobs, additional 1.3m tonnes of international trade and an uplift in sub-regional GVA of up to £16.6bn. East Suffolk Council is the Lead Authority and Accountable Body for Freeport East.
1.2	A Full Business Case was approved by Cabinet in April 2022 and in November 2022 this was approved by the government. Freeport East Limited was incorporated on 6 December 2022.
1.3	There is a requirement for each of the founding member authorities to appoint a Director to the Supervisory Board of Freeport East Limited.

2 Current position	
2.1	Councillor Steve Gallant, Leader of the Council, was appointed as East Suffolk Councils Director of Freeport East Limited on 23 August 2022, and resigned with effect from the 9 May 2023.
2.2	In order for Freeport East Limited to continue to carry out its work, a new Director needs to be appointed by East Suffolk Council.

3 How to address current situation	
3.1	It is proposed that Councillor David Beavan be appointed as East Suffolk Council's Director of Freeport East Limited.
3.2	It is best practice that an Alternate Director be appointed to take the place of East Suffolk Council's Director of Freeport East at any Board meetings where the Director cannot attend. Therefore, it is proposed that Chris Bally, Chief Executive of East Suffolk Council, be appointed as East Suffolk Council's Alternate Director of Freeport East Limited.

4 Reasons for recommendation	
4.1	Cabinet is asked to appoint Councillor David Beavan as East Suffolk Council's Director of Freeport East Limited, and Chris Bally, as East Suffolk Council's Alternate Director of Freeport East Limited, for Freeport East to carry out its work.

### Appendices:

None

### Background reference papers:

Date	Type	Available From
5 April 2022	ES-1109 Freeport East Full Business Case	

