

# **Wandsworth and Richmond Shared Staffing Arrangements (SSA) and an introduction to the Voluntary Sector Team**

Matt Maher, Head of Community and Partnerships  
Voluntary Sector Forum - 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017

# What we will cover

- Context and guiding principles
- Your officer and Member contacts
- Council commitments
- What does this mean to you
- Partnership arrangements
- Voluntary Sector Partnership team
- Current arrangements and what you can expect

# Context

Extreme financial pressures – despite savings already made, more savings needed

Couldn't stay as we were – simply not sustainable. Needed a radical way of reducing costs while still providing quality services

Shared staffing arrangement between Richmond and Wandsworth provided that opportunity

Merging management structures and seeking efficiencies and reduced overheads throughout both organisations

# Share Overhead to Save

A single workforce...



Opportunities to share assets, contracts, best practice etc.

Biggest savings arise from sharing management and having a single workforce

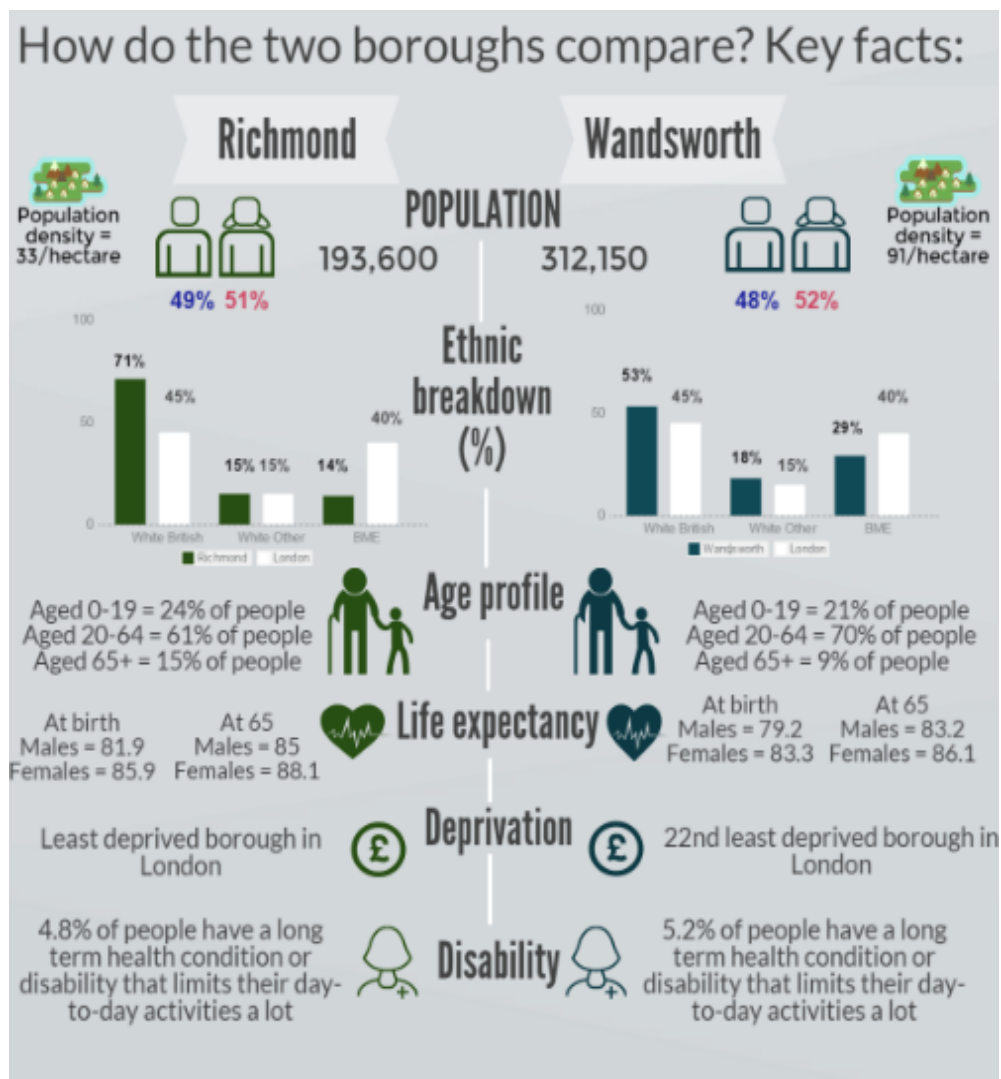
Serving two sovereign bodies



Recognises different resident profiles, local priorities and organisational cultures, accommodating difference

# Serving the Borough of Wandsworth...

- Population of 307,000 (largest inner London borough)
- Turnover of £900 million
- 4th fastest population growth of any London borough
- Lowest average council tax in the UK
- Lowest spend per capita of any London borough
- If the housing department was an RSL, it would be the 2nd largest in London
- 90% satisfied with their local area as a place to live
- 87% of residents surveyed satisfied with the way the Council runs things



# Guiding Principles

Retained  
sovereignty

A single  
workforce

Shared  
systems and  
processes

Joint  
commissioning  
& procurement

Commitment  
to service  
quality

Significant  
savings  
secured

# Retained Sovereignty



**Cllr Jonathan Cook**  
Deputy Leader of the  
Council and Cabinet  
Member - Community  
Safety



**Cllr Paul Ellis**  
Cabinet Member -  
Housing



**Cllr James Maddan**  
Cabinet Member - Adult  
Care and Health



**Cllr Ravi Govindia,**  
**Leader of the Council**

**Cllr Guy Senior**  
Cabinet Member –  
Finance and Corporate  
Resources



**Cllr Steffi Sutters**  
Cabinet Member -  
Communications



**Cllr Kathy Tracey**  
Cabinet Member – Education  
and Children's Services



**Cllr Kim Caddy**  
Cabinet Member -  
Employment, Skills and  
Business Development





# Savings

## Staff savings

- 20% average, skewed towards the top end of the organisation
- Tailored to circumstances – reduced temporary staff & vacant posts

## Shared procurement, property and systems

- Significant opportunities, particularly on joint commissioning, but with longer lead time

## Other savings

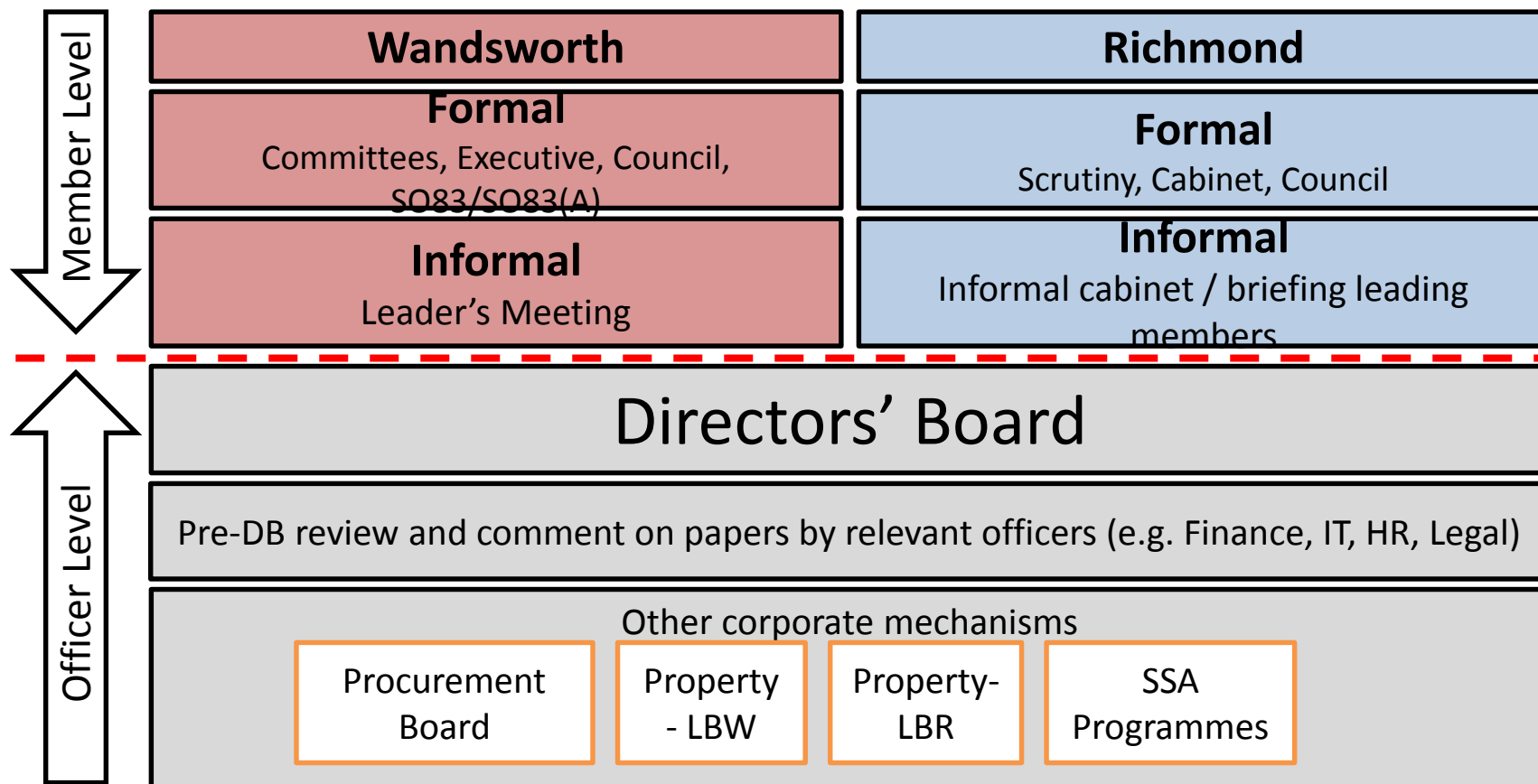
- Continue to look at every possible avenue to reduce costs while maintaining service quality
- Sharing brings new opportunities to do things better / differently – the ultimate 'peer review'

# Opportunities

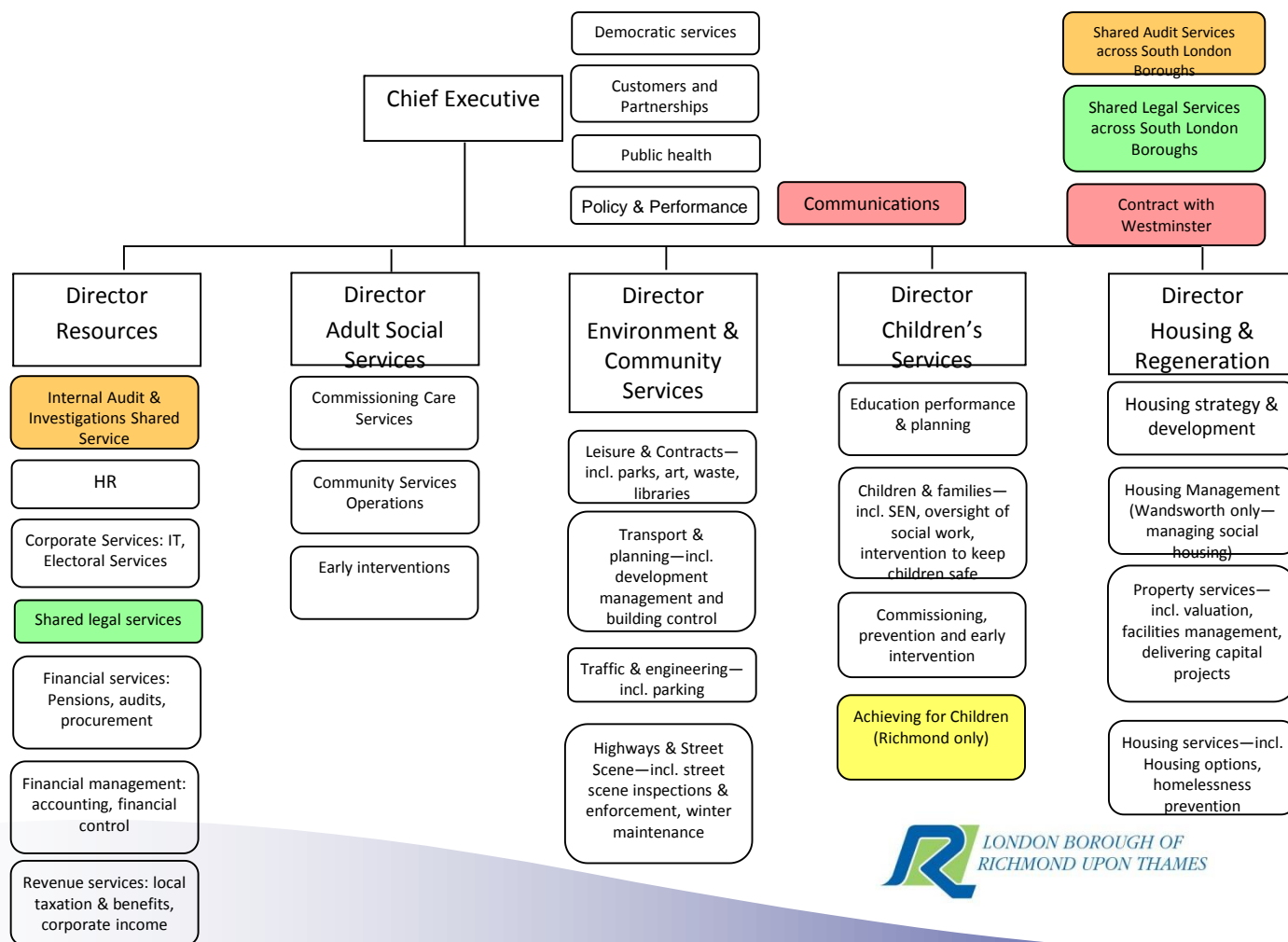
- Serving a population of over half a million Londoners
- Only 7 UK local authorities are larger
- The largest council staff group in London
- Economies of scale bring opportunities for staff progression, purchasing power, sustainability & resilience
- Stronger voice at regional level

- 2 excellent councils
- Both previous rated 4\* following Audit Commission Inspections
- Both high performers on key performance indicators
- High resident satisfaction
- Not just bigger – also better: drawing on the best of both councils to focus on quality and continuing to raise standards. Looking at how we can do things differently and continually improve.

# 1 officer process serving 2 Councils



# How the SSA is organised



# Chief Executive's Group



# Housing



Brian Reilly  
Director of Housing  
and Regeneration



Dave Worth  
Assistant Director  
Housing Services



Chris Jones  
Assistant Director  
Housing Strategy and  
Development

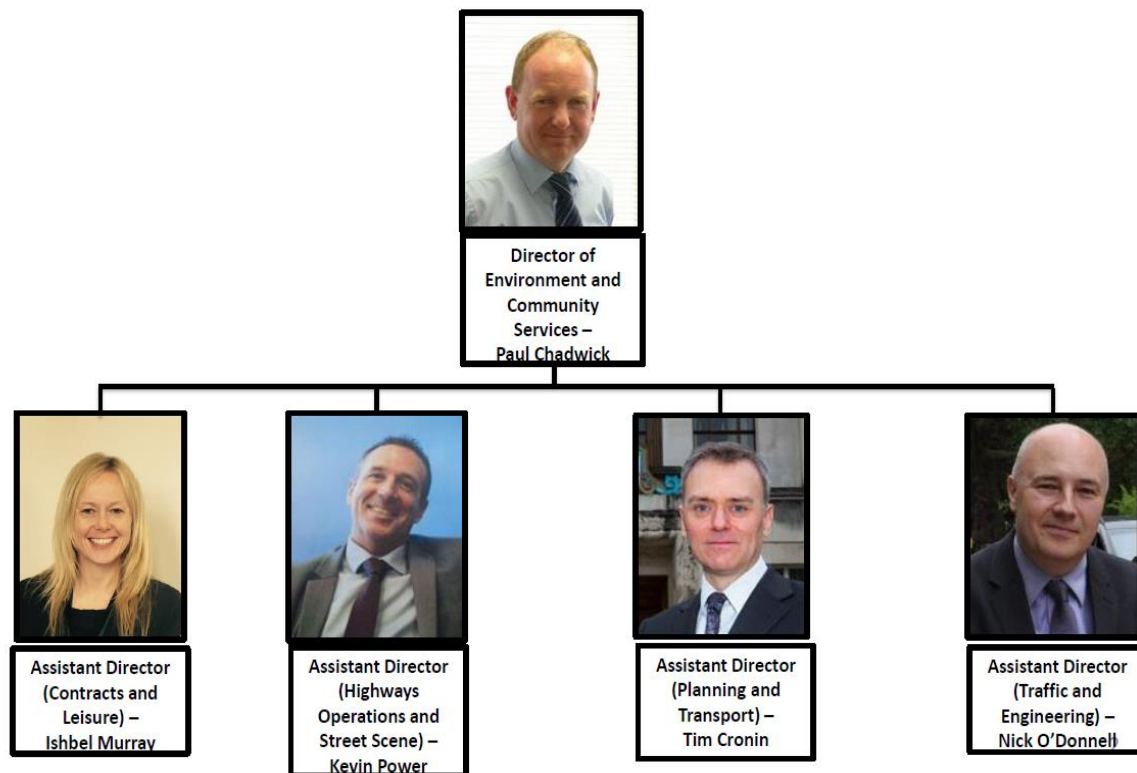


Ian Stewart  
Assistant Director  
Housing Management

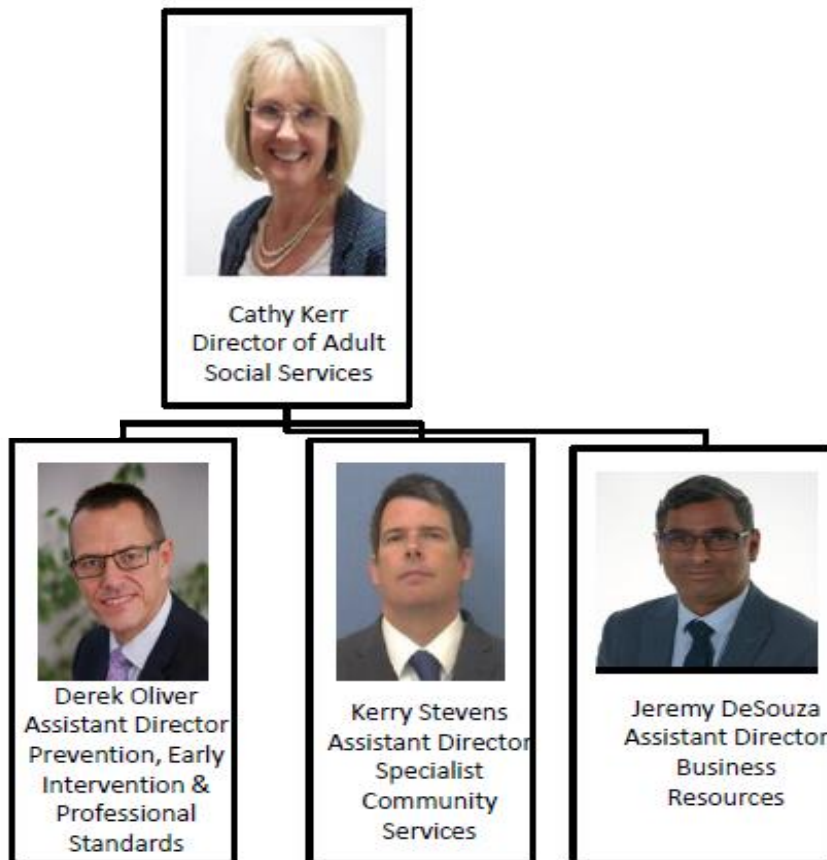


Andy Algar  
Assistant Director  
Property Services

# Environment and Community Services



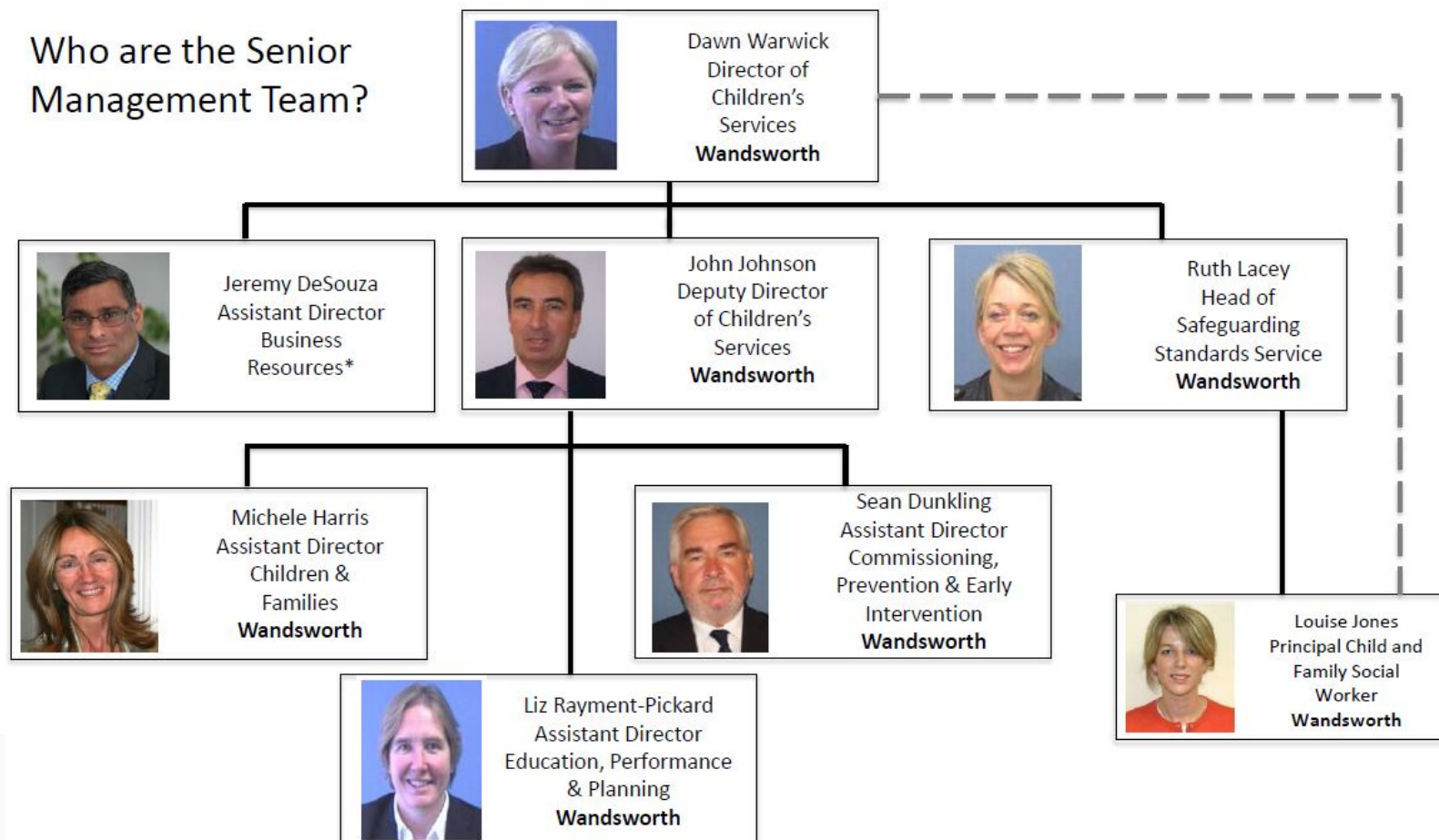
# Adult Social Services



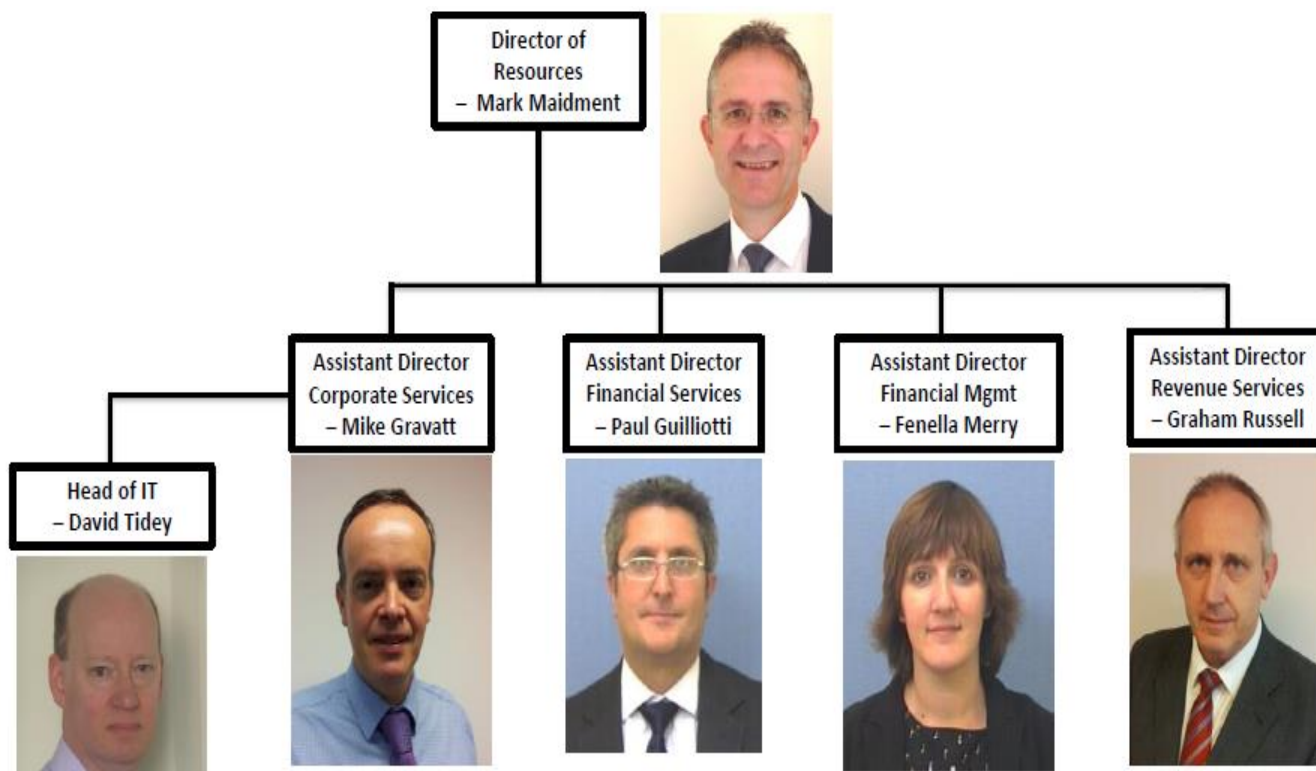


# Children's Services (Wandsworth)

Who are the Senior  
Management Team?



# Resources



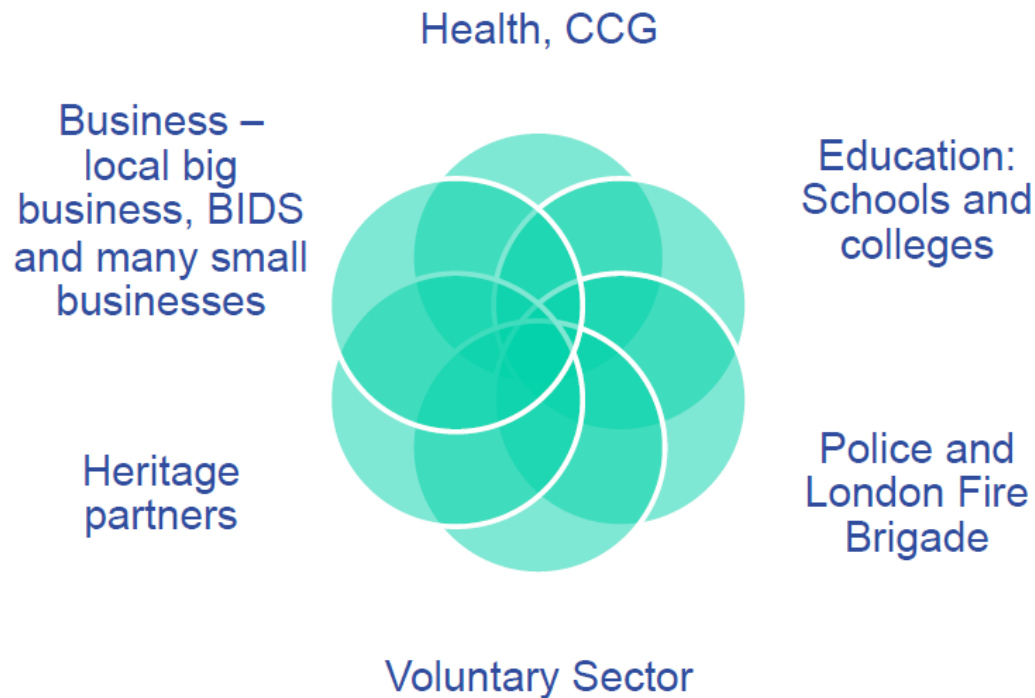
# Wandsworth Council's commitments

- Delivering high quality, value for money services
- Improving opportunities for children and young people with an emphasis on early intervention and preventative work
- Making Wandsworth an attractive, safe, sustainable and healthy place
- Promoting health and wellbeing for all adults with personalised and preventative care and support for adults in need - including those in housing need
- Building a prosperous, vibrant and cohesive community

# What will this mean to you?

- Front-line services protected
- Quality of services maintained
- Improved value for money
- Increase in expertise and skills of staff
- A dedicated Voluntary Sector Partnerships team working across both boroughs

# Both Councils work with a range of partners



# Context

- Direct support for and interaction with VCS has to date been primarily via Education & Social Services and Housing & Community
- Commissioning continues plays a part in both Councils as they aim to achieve the best for their communities.
- £millions of services commissioned from voluntary sector e.g. CAB advice services and DASCAS
- Wandsworth Grant Fund over £300k per annum

...moving forwards - we want to build new relationships and build upon existing relationships and have an ongoing conversation with you as we work together

# Current arrangements

- The Voluntary Sector Partnership Team have been going out to meet voluntary groups and networks e.g. CEO Leadership / Thinking Group. First impressions...
    - Active and engaged – enriching the community
    - Providing choice and quality services for residents
  - **We want to hear your ideas, offers and asks**
  - Looking how we can learn from each Borough and improve the way we work with the voluntary sector
- Melissa Watson, Voluntary Sector Partnership Manager
  - Bruce Murdoch, Grants Development Officer
  - Harriet Steele, Project Officer – Voluntary Sector

# What you can expect

- Our team is there to support the Council to build an effective relationship with the voluntary and community sector, including:
  - Commissioning
  - Communicating and listening
  - Partnership – developing how we work together
- We want to engage and communicate with the sector in a open, transparent way
- Use our communications to help support and promote the work of the voluntary sector
- Provide guidance on Wandsworth Grants Fund & Local Fund (NCIL)



# Wandsworth Grants Fund

- Established in 2015 providing small grants (£500 - £10,000) for community and voluntary groups
- Streamlining and improving the process including seed funding initiatives and building capacity
- Providing guidance and advice – 1 to 1's and through events
- Next round will open at the beginning of March for a June decision by the Committees.

WGF: 2016-17	Number of Applications	Number of Awards	Amounts awarded
Round 3	49	26	£125,888
Round 4	42	21	£108,536
Wandsworth Arts Fringe	59	25	£35,063
Totals	150	72	£269,487

# Contact us / further information

Telephone: (020) 8871 6203 or (020) 8487 5225

In person: Town Hall, Wandsworth High Street, SW18  
2PU

Online via our website [www.wandsworth.gov.uk](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk)

Via twitter <https://twitter.com/wandbc>

Via Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/wandsworth.council>

# Questions?