



Lucy Townsend, Chief Executive of Wiltshire Council

Dear Colleagues

I wanted to introduce myself to you as I have now taken on the role of Chief Executive of Wiltshire Council.

I am honoured to have been handed the responsibility of leading the council and working with our communities is central to what we do. I look forward to working with you as we move forward to ensure Wiltshire is a place of support and opportunity for everyone.

I've taken on this new role following more than 26 years of experience in local government, beginning my career in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham in social work and management. I then worked at Swindon Borough Council and North Somerset Council before starting with Wiltshire Council in 2014 as Head of Safeguarding and Assessment. Between September 2017 to March 2020 I was Director of Families and Children's Services before being appointed to Corporate Director People in July 2020. I hold the statutory role of Director of Children's Services and am extremely proud that we achieved an Outstanding Ofsted rating in December 2023.

I want to take this moment to thank you for all you do for local democracy in Wiltshire. We know town and parish councils are the backbone of our communities, providing a

voice and a platform for local issues and ensuring people are heard and action is taken where required.

Please know your commitment is valued and appreciated. An active town or parish council means a healthy democracy and I want to thank you for everything you do to make a difference where you live.

My first request to you is you join me at the regular Town and Parish Council clerks meeting at 10am on Wednesday 25 September. If you haven't received an MS Teams invitation already then please get in touch with Rhys Schell (rhys.schell@wiltshire.gov.uk).

This will be an opportunity to hear the latest news, share information and an opportunity to start to get to know each other – something I'm looking forward to attending.

I hope you can join me and colleagues at the next meeting.

Thank you.