

Mr Paul Martin Bio

Paul's first Chief Executive job was in the newly created unitary authority of Peterborough City Council, aged 37 (1998/2002). To diversify his experience, he then took a role in central government as Regional Director, Government Office of the Southeast (2002/2005).

He has the unusual distinction of having been a London borough Chief Executive in four different places - Sutton (2005/10); Wandsworth (2010/20); Richmond-upon-Thames (concurrently with Wandsworth in a shared service, 2016/2020); and Ealing (as interim Chief Executive, 2022).

Key achievements include the regeneration of London's Battersea Power Station and the wider Nine Elms area, now home to Apple's European HQ. Paul worked on this for over a decade and led the council's officer team in the programme governance of the area's regeneration, which included the tax increment financing of the construction of the Northern Line extension. Regeneration in local places rarely gets bigger than this - 25,000 new jobs, £7.9 billion in economic growth, 16,000 new homes.

Another highlight was the creation of the shared service between two very different London boroughs - Wandsworth and Richmond-upon-Thames, serving a population of 550,000. The priority here was to maintain and improve service standards while dramatically reducing costs by £20 million each year in increased efficiency. Careful planning coupled with attention to the ethos and values of each council, and building on the best achievements of both councils, created a strong platform to build a durable shared service. The only arrangement of its kind nationally, it has now seen both councils through change in political administration and the transformation of cross cutting leadership capacity and capability.

After delaying his retirement to lead the councils of Richmond and Wandsworth through the pandemic, Paul was head hunted for the role of interim Chief Executive for the self-governing state of Jersey (2020/2021). This involved spending a year living and working in Jersey as the island's interim Chief Executive, following a turbulent period for the state. The Government fulfils the roles of both national and local government, it is the island's legislature and wholly owns nearly all the island's key infrastructure (including telecoms, airport, ports etc.) making this a fascinating place to work. Importantly, the island has only very limited party politics - most States Assembly members are independents, including the whole of the Council of Ministers. This provides quite a different, pertinent context to working within a party-political council as he has done earlier in his career.

During a distinguished career, as a CEO for over 25 years, Paul has worked with over 1,000 councillors, learning much about the ingredients of a great partnership between officers and members based on a shared understanding of roles and mutual respect. His view is that effective governance lies at the heart of this, and helps organisations get the most out of their whole teams.

In a quest to continue his development and learning, last year he applied for and was awarded, an EB 1 visa by the US Federal Government as "an alien of extraordinary ability" - in order to experience living and working in the US. Recently, he has been working for a UK based management consultancy which is considering growth in the US market. This has involved living and working in the County of Los Angeles - the biggest local authority in the US serving 10m residents, with \$807billion in annual output.

Finally, Paul is dedicated to the highest standards and innovation in public services, to help ensure the present and future prosperity and well-being of populations. He believes this depends on great people working for great organisations that have the ambition to be world class.