



Mark Simpson reappointed CEO of Whangarei District Council

Whangarei Mayor Morris Cutforth says he is pleased to advise that Mark Simpson has been reappointed to the position of Whangarei District Council Chief Executive, for a term of four years.

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Council is required to advertise the position of Chief Executive in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

"The four year term of this appointment is designed to transcend the next political cycle in the interests of continuity, and to align with the next one," Mayor Cutforth said.

"Our recruitment process involved human resources firm Sheffields and was managed by an Appointment Committee consisting of myself, three councillors and a knowledgeable independent senior executive, and headed by Cr Warwick Syers. The process was thorough and robust attracting a field of around 40 candidates from across the country, of which three were shortlisted."

Cr Syers says that Mark was a clear standout applicant, bringing extensive knowledge as well as passion for our District. "Whangarei is one of the few districts in New Zealand that is moving forward at the moment, and we want to continue the same kind of leadership and excellent project management that we have had in the last few years," he said.

"While all the shortlisted applicants were experienced CEOs, we looked at where the business sat on the business maturity curve and decided that this is not a time for a transition manager – we need continuance without disruption to the organisation and Mark's demonstrated project management skills and thorough understanding of the business won through on the day," he said.

"We congratulate Mark on his appointment from a field of strong and able candidates."

For further information:

Cr Warwick Syers

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