



CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER PORT OF CORK

THE ORGANISATION

The Port of Cork is the primary deep-water, multi-modal port servicing the South-West region of Ireland. It offers a wide variety of freight and passenger-based services and, as the second largest port in the State, it plays a critical part in the success of the local, regional and national economies. Cargo throughput at the port is approximately 10 million tonnes annually, and turnover is in the region of €50 million. Over 100 Cruise Liners call to Cork and Bantry each year, carrying nearly 200,000 visitors and generating €17 million annually, for the local economy.

The recently opened Cork Container Terminal at Ringaskiddy has enabled a major transformation of the port's capabilities. The Port of Cork will also play a significant part in the Government's plans for a multi-port approach to the provision of infrastructure and support for Offshore Renewable Energy.

For Further information on the Port of Cork, please visit: <https://www.portofcork.ie>

ROLE OVERVIEW

To support its continued development and organisational transformation, the Port of Cork Company is seeking to recruit a Chief People Officer (CPO). Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer and serving as a key member of the Executive Management Team, the Chief People Officer will lead the development and execution of the Port of Cork's people, culture and organisational strategy.

The successful candidate will provide strategic leadership across all aspects of Human Resources, Employee Relations, Talent Management, Learning and Development, Succession Planning, Organisational Development, Diversity and Inclusion, Reward, Workforce Planning and Employee Wellbeing. The CPO will ensure that the organisation has the talent, capability and culture required to successfully deliver its Strategic Plan 2026-2030 and Masterplan 2050.

QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

- A relevant third level qualification (QQI level 8 or above) in human resources or related discipline with CIPD membership
- Extensive relevant experience (Minimum 5 years) within a Commercial Semi State, Civil or Public sector environment or equivalent
- A background in successfully managing employee relations and industrial relations in a complex environment
- Comprehensive experience and understanding of the management of both Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Pension Schemes
- Experience in developing, managing and delivering organisational transformation and effective change management strategies and programmes
- Strong leadership competencies including values-based leadership, influencing, coaching & developing others, change leadership
- Strategic thinking with operational execution
- A strong appreciation of the challenges of the Port and Marine Transportation Sectors
- Excellent stakeholder engagement, communication, and influencing skills.

TO APPLY

Please email a CV and supporting cover letter in confidence to recruitment@portofcork.ie . Closing date for receipt of applications is 12:00 Noon Friday, October 9th, 2026.

The Port of Cork is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from suitably qualified candidates from all backgrounds.