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Kitran Eastman has been appointed managing director of Peterborough City Council's newly launched trading company Aragon Direct Services.

She will start her role on Wednesday 4 September 2019.

Kitran joins the company from the London Borough of Barnet where she is currently street scene director with responsibility for 500 staff and a £14million budget.

"I'm very much looking forward to working with the team to meet the challenges facing local government today and deliver exceptional services for the residents of Peterborough," said Kitran.

"The creation of Aragon is an exciting new venture which reflects Peterborough City Council's clear commitment to important front line services. I am really excited to be joining at this time, it's a fabulous opportunity."

Kitran has worked in local government for 15 years delivering a wide range of public realm based public services including senior roles at Warwickshire County Council, Chiltern and Wycombe District Councils and Ipswich Borough Council.

She is originally from East Anglia having grown up in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk. In her spare time she is a dedicated gardener and loves growing her own fruit and veg.

Councillor Mohammed Farooq, chairman of Peterborough Limited, said: "We are all very excited about the appointment of Kitran who comes with a wealth of experience in governance, growth and customer service and with an abundance of energy. She will not only provide excellent value for money for our taxpayers but will also add efficiency to the excellent services we provide to our residents.

"We are also immensely grateful to our interim managing director Kieron King for his hard work at Peterborough Limited. Kieron has played a crucial role in the set-up of the company and the transfer of services and staff from Amey. Kieron ensured that our residents received uninterrupted services during this transfer and I am delighted that he will continue to run this contract (operationally) as an operations director."

Services which were previously managed by Amey transferred across to Aragon in phases between February and May following the council's landmark decision to launch its own local authority trading company, Peterborough Limited. As well as delivering services including building cleansing, waste collection, street cleansing and building maintenance for the city council, the company is also targeting the private sector to generate income for the council.

Peterborough Limited is wholly owned by Peterborough City Council. Its board members have responsibility for operational control, developing and delivering the business plan approved by the council, and reporting on progress and being subject to scrutiny by the council.

Aragon Direct Services is a trading name of Peterborough Limited.