

Designation of Statutory Roles

Purpose

- 1.1 The designation of a Chief Finance Officer is required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972. The statutory role is currently fulfilled by the Council's Strategic Director of Corporate Resources, Simon Riley.
- 1.2 As part of a Senior Management Restructure, the post of Strategic Director of Corporate Resources is to be deleted. Mr Riley has given notice of his resignation from Derby City Council to take up employment at another local authority. It is therefore recommended that the Council's current Director of Financial Services is appointed as the statutory Chief Finance Officer.

Recommendation

- 2.1 To designate Alison Parkin as the Chief Finance Officer, as required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, with effect from 3 April 2023.

Reason

- 3.1 To ensure compliance with the Council Constitution and relevant legislation.

Supporting information

- 4.1 Every local authority is required to designate a suitably qualified officer to act as Chief Finance Officer under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972. The role is usually referred to as the 'Section 151 Officer' and is currently occupied by the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources, Simon Riley.
- 4.2 The Council is currently in the process of consulting upon and implementing a Senior Management Restructure in which the post of Strategic Director of Corporate Resources is to be deleted. Pending the conclusion of the restructure, Mr Riley has notified the Chief Executive of his intention to resign from his substantive post with effect from 2 April 2023 to take up employment with another local authority.
- 4.3 It is therefore recommended that the Council's current Director of Financial Services, Alison Parkin, is permanently appointed as Chief Finance Officer.
- 4.4 Mrs Parkin, a CCAB qualified accountant, is full member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy with 23 years of post-qualification experience in local government. She began her career at Derbyshire County Council where she

qualified as a CIPFA accountant and has been at Derby City Council since 2001, working in a wide range of service and corporate roles including as Deputy S151 Officer.

Public/stakeholder engagement

- 5.1 The Officer Employment Procedure Rules require all Service Director appointments to be agreed by a cross-party panel of councillors. Alison Parkin was appointed as the Council's Director of Financial Services in February 2021.

Other options

- 6.1 None. The Council must appoint a Chief Finance Officer.

Financial and value for money issues

- 7.1 The statutory designation of Chief Finance Officer attracts no additional salary. Funding for the substantive post of Director of Financial Services is already established.
- 7.2 Ensuring the Council has suitably qualified individual appointed to the role of Chief Finance Officer will enable the authority to deliver best-value in the delivery of public services.

Legal implications

- 8.1 Approval of the recommendations will ensure compliance with the requirement to designate a statutory officer under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Climate implications

- 9.1 None directly arising.

Socio-Economic implications

- 10.1 None directly arising.

Other significant implications

- 11.2 None directly arising.

This report has been approved by the following people:

Role	Name	Date of sign-off
Legal		
Finance		
Service Director(s)	Emily Feenan – Director of Legal, Procurement and Democratic Services, and Monitoring Officer.	9 March 2023
Report sponsor	Paul Simpson – Chief Executive	9 March 2023
Other(s)		

Background papers:	None.
List of appendices:	None.