

COUNCIL 16 September 2015

Report of the Chief Executive

# Appointment to the post of Section 151 Officer

## SUMMARY

1.1 The council is required to appoint a Section 151 Officer for the purposes of regulating and controlling the finances of the council. This report recommends that Mr Martyn Marples, Director of Finance and presently Acting Section 151 Officer, be appointed to this role on a permanent basis.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To confirm that the Director of Finance, Mr Martyn Marples, be appointed as Section 151 Officer for the purposes of Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 2.2 To note the Chief Executive's Urgent Decision that was taken on 22 August 2015 to extend the acting arrangement prior to Council having opportunity to consider the recommendation at paragraph 2.1.

#### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 The council is required to appoint a Section 151 Officer for the purposes of regulating and controlling the finances of the council. The Director of is considered to be the appropriate appointment as Section 151 Officer.

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 A slotting and matching process was undertaken as part of the corporate restructure. This resulted in the Director of Finance and Procurement, Mr Martyn Marples, being slotted to the post of Director of Finance. Mr Marples has been performing the duties of Section 151 Officer in an acting capacity since Council approved the appointment on 23 July 2014.
- 4.2 An interview panel, composed of Councillors Ashburner, Barker, Graves, Hezelgrave, J Khan, Repton and Russell, was convened on 13 August to consider Mr Marples' suitability for the post of Section 151 Officer permanently. The panel unanimously agreed Mr Marples' suitability.
- 4.3 As the corporate restructure took effect from 1 September 2015, a Chief Executive's Urgent Decision was taken on 22 August 2015 to extend the acting arrangement until the date of this meeting in order that a permanent approval can now be sought from Council.

## OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 The appointment of a Section 151 Officer is mandatory.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Janie Berry – Director of Governance
Financial officer	N/A
Human Resources officer	Gordon Stirling – Director of Strategic Services and Organisational
	Development
Estates/Property officer	N/A
Service Director(s)	N/A
Other(s)	Paul Robinson – Chief Executive

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

# IMPLICATIONS

## Financial and Value for Money

1.1 There is no cost to confirming the recommendations.

#### Legal

2.1 The council is required to appoint a Section 151 Officer for the purposes of Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

#### Personnel

3.1 None.

#### IT

4.1 None.

#### **Equalities Impact**

5.1 None.

#### **Health and Safety**

6.1 None.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

7.1 None.

#### **Property and Asset Management**

8.1 None.

#### **Risk Management**

9.1 None.

## Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 None.