

<b>Report To:</b>	COUNCIL	<b>Date:</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> April 2017
<b>Heading:</b>	APPOINTMENT OF A CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (SECTION 151 OFFICER)		
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	CLLR CHERYL BUTLER (LEADER)		
<b>Ward/s:</b>	ALL		
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No		
<b>Subject To Call-In:</b>	No		

### **Purpose Of Report**

To designate the Corporate Finance Manager as Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 officer) in line with statutory requirements and following approval of the Corporate Leadership Restructure at Cabinet and Chief Officers Employment Committee.

### **Recommendation(s)**

- 1) To designate the Corporate Finance Manager as Chief Finance Officer (section 151 officer) from the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2017 in line with statutory requirements.
- 2) To note that the job title for the Corporate Finance Manager might change as part of an imminent review but that the post will retain the S151 responsibilities once designated by Council in the event of a change to the job title.

### **Reasons For Recommendation(s)**

To ensure the Council meets its statutory requirements.

### **Alternative Options Considered (With Reasons Why Not Adopted)**

It is a statutory obligation for the Council to have Chief Finance Officer. The Council cannot legally function without one. There is no requirement for the Chief Finance Officer to be a Chief Officer. Designating the Corporate Finance Manager as Chief Finance Officer has been considered as part of the Corporate Leadership Team restructure and recommended after an assessment of a number of different structures.

The alternative structures that were considered were not adopted as they did not compare as favourably as the structure that has been adopted.

## **Detailed Information**

The details of the Corporate Leadership Team restructure were approved by Cabinet on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 and then by the Chief Officers Employment Committee on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017. The approval of these reports will see the Council reduce the number of Directors from six to four and as a consequence there is a need to designate a new Chief Financial Officer (section 151 officer). The human resource implications of the revised structure have been approved by the Cabinet and Chief Officers Employment Committee except for the designation of a Chief Finance Officer which is the remit of Council.

The transitional arrangements for the handover of roles and responsibilities is underway and a smooth transfer is expected.

## **Implications**

### **Corporate Plan:**

The revised Corporate Leadership Structure has been considered against the delivery of the Councils Corporate plan and will support its delivery.

### **Legal:**

The Council is required to appoint a Chief Finance Officer in accordance with S151 of the Local Government Act 1972. The appointment of the Chief Finance Officer is reserved to Council.

### **Finance:**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

<b>Budget Area</b>	<b>Implication</b>
General Fund – Revenue Budget	None
General Fund – Capital Programme	None
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	None
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	None

## **Human Resources / Equality and Diversity:**

There are no human resource implications arising from this report. These have been dealt with by the Chief Officers Employment Committee.

## **Other Implications:**

## **Reason(s) for Urgency (if applicable):**

Not applicable

## **Exempt Report:**

Not applicable

## **Background Papers**

Cabinet papers 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

Chief Officer Employment Committee papers 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017

## **Report Author and Contact Officer**

Robert Mitchell  
Chief Executive Officer