

**DESIGNATION OF STATUTORY OFFICERS**

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER:** Councillor Elaine Woodburn, Leader  
**LEAD OFFICER:** Paul Walker, Chief Executive  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Tim Capper, Democratic Services Manager

<b>Summary</b>	Proposes changes to statutory officer designations
<b>Recommendation:</b>	That the Council agrees the changes to statutory officer designations set out in para 2.1 below with immediate effect.

**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Following the recent review and re-organisation of senior management agreed by Personnel Panel and Executive in February 2014 , under which the previous 5 chief officer posts were deleted, including the Head of Corporate Resources role which was designated as the S151 officer. The Council is required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to designate one of its officers as the Council’s Chief Financial Officer, usually known as the Section 151 Officer.

**2 PROPOSALS**

2.1 It is proposed that the post of Financial Services Manager Post should be designated as the Chief Financial Officer, as the current interim post holder is appropriately qualified, and that the designated Deputy remains as the Accountant, Financial Management and Treasury. These designations require the agreement of full Council.

2.2 For completeness, the other statutory officer designations already in place are:

Head of the Paid Service – Section 4, Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 – Chief Executive

Monitoring Officer - Section 5, Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 – Democratic Services Manager (Deputy – Legal Services Manager)

**3 CONCLUSION**

3.1 Designation of a new Chief Financial Officer completes the statutory officer designations that the Council is required to have in place.

3.2 In order to comply with the councils local governance code and CIPFA code of practice the following principles should be complied with:

1. The Chief Financial Officer in a local authority is a key member of the Leadership Team, helping it to develop and implement strategy and to resource and deliver the authority's strategic objectives sustainably and in the public interest
2. The CFO in a local authority must be actively involved in, and able to bring influence to bear on, all material business decisions to ensure immediate and longer term implications, opportunities and risks are fully considered, and alignment with the authority's overall financial strategy
3. The CFO in a local authority must lead the promotion and delivery by the whole authority of good financial management so that public money is safeguarded at all times and used appropriately, economically, efficiently, and effectively
4. The CFO in a local authority must lead and direct a finance function that is resourced to be fit for purpose

3.3 Accordingly in order to comply with these principles the S151 officer will sit as a formal member of the Corporate Leadership Team.

#### **4. STATUTORY OFFICER COMMENTS**

4.1 The Monitoring Officer's comments are: Contained within the report

4.2 The Section 151 Officer's comments are: No additional comments.

4.3 EIA Comments: There will be no advantageous or disadvantageous implications for any group in the community arising from the proposals in this report.

4.4 Other consultee comments, if any: None

**List of Background Documents: None**

**List of Consultees: Leader, CLT  
Portfolio Holder**