

REPORT OF Chief Executive
To: AGM
Subject: Appointment of S151 Officer
Date: 22 May 2023

Reference:

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To approve the appointment of a Statutory Finance Officer (S151 Officer)

1. INTRODUCTION

Under relevant legislation, the Council must appoint one of its officers to act as the Statutory Finance Officer (s151 Officer). It is prudent to ensure that in the absence of the SFO a suitable officer is appointed to deputise. It was approved by Full Council on 16 July 2021 that the Senior Capital Accountant, Peter Hudson, be appointed as permanent Deputy S151 Officer.

2. REPORT

The current SFO is the Finance Manager who will be leaving the organisation in July 2023.

The appointment to the post of Finance Manager has now been concluded and Gordon Bryant will join Torridge on 31 July 2023 and therefore it is now necessary to gain approval to assign the S151 Officer role to the post where the responsibility lies.

3. IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications

There are no legal implications to this appointment, but as it is a legal requirement to have a Statutory Finance Officer (s151 Officer) and a further officer to deputise.

Financial Implications

There is no financial implication as a result of the reassignment as the role is incorporated with the job description and normal salary of the Finance Manager.

Human Resources Implications

Only as contained in the report

Sustainability/Biodiversity Implications

None

Equality/Diversity

An EINA is not considered necessary.

Risk Management



Failure to comply with the relevant legislation would present a risk

Compliance with Policies and Strategies

The Council has no policies or strategies that deal with this issue as it is a statutory duty

Ward Member and Leader Member Views

Date of Consultation –

4. CONCLUSION

The appointment of a Statutory Finance Officer is a statutory requirement, which can be complied with by assigning that responsibility to the officer role of Finance Manager recently recruited to.

5. RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance Manager, Gordon Bryant be appointed as Statutory Finance Officer with effect from 31 July 2023.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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| Consultations: | Date of Consultation – Officers Consulted – |
| Contact Officer: | Steve Hearse – Chief Executive |
| Background Papers: | None |

