

**REPORT TITLE: Appointment of s151 Officer**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor K May, Leader of the Council
Portfolio Holder Consulted	No
Relevant Head of Service	Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive
Ward(s) Affected	All
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	n/a
Key Decision / Non-Key Decision	n/a

**1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 Under s151 of the Local Government Act 1972, each Local Authority shall make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and shall secure that one of their officers has responsibility for so doing.
- 1.2 Following a recent joint recruitment process the Councils have selected Mr James Howse to take up this position.

**2. RECOMMENDATION: that**

- 2.1 Mr James Howse be appointed as the officer responsible for the administration of the Councils finances under s151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

**3. KEY ISSUES**

**Legal Implications**

- 3.1 There is a statutory requirement under the Local Government Act 1972 and s5 (1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 for a local authority to have a chief finance officer in place.
- 3.2 Under s5 (2) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, a s151 Officer is classed as a "Statutory Chief Officer" and is therefore a politically restricted post. The appointment will, if approved, be added to the list of chief officer functions and responsibilities.
- 3.3 The s151 Officer is responsible for the administration of the councils financial affairs including the obligations under the Councils Standing Orders, Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure Rules.

**Service / Operational Implications**

- 3.4 n/a

**Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications**

3.5 n/a

**4. RISK MANAGEMENT**

4.1 n/a

**5. APPENDICES**

None

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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