

Agenda Item No:	10	
Committee:	Council	
Date:	15 November 2018	
Report Title:	Appointment of Corporate Director and Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer)	

1 Purpose / Summary

Following a recruitment and assessment process, Council are asked to approve the appointment of Peter Catchpole as the Council's Corporate Director & Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) as recommended by the Member Appointments Panel.

2 Key issues

- The Council has been required to recruit a Corporate Director and Section 151 Officer due to the previous post holder leaving the Council.
- The s151 Officer is a statutory post. The duty of the s151 Officer is to ensure financial probity throughout the activities of the Council. The role is one of three Statutory Officer roles that provide appropriate professional checks and balances across the Council. The other two statutory roles are those of 'Head of Paid Service' and 'Monitoring Officer'.
- The role of the Council's Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) must be approved by Full Council.
- A Member Appointments Panel was convened and consisted of the Leader, Finance Portfolio Holder and the Chairman of Staff Committee.
- A rigorous assessment centre and interview process was run during October and November 2018. Following this, the Member Appointments Panel unanimously agreed to recommend to Council the appointment of Peter Catchpole as the Council's Corporate Director & Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer).

Peter has a wide range of professional experience in the public and private sector. This includes time working within both central government and a local authority. Peter joins us from South Norfolk District Council, where he held the post of Assistant Director for Resources (s151 Officer). In this role Peter is responsible for Corporate Services, where he worked as part of the Leadership Team.

- It is anticipated that Peter will commence his role in the New Year i.e February/March. Until that time the Council's s151 role will be covered on an interim basis by Kamal Mehta.

3 Recommendations

The Member Appointments Panel recommend to Council:

- That the Council approves the appointment of Peter Catchpole as the Council's Corporate Director (s151 Officer).

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	N/A
Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Chris Seaton - Leader of the Council Cllr Anne Hay - Portfolio Holder for Finance Cllr Maureen Davis - Chairman of Staff Committee
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Background Paper(s)	N/A