

# ***Report to the Council***

**Report of:** Monitoring Officer (N. Boateng (Ext 4323))

**Date:** 21 May 2020

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## **1. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

**Recommending:**

- (1) That, from 4 May 2020, Andrew Small be designated as the Council's Chief Financial Officer, being the officer having responsibility under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 73 of the Local Government Act 1985 and Section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988; and**
- (2) That pursuant to recommendation (1) above, the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make changes to the Scheme of Delegation contained within the Council's Constitution, as required to give effect the appointment of Andrew Small as the Chief Financial Officer.**

1. The Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires every local authority to appoint a suitably qualified officer to be responsible for the proper administration of its affairs. The role of the Chief Financial Officer (also known as the Section 151 Officer) is a statutory requirement.
2. Following the recruitment process for the Strategic Directors and Chief Operating Officer role, some changes were required. The existing Section 151 Officer Nick Dawe had been permanently appointed as the EFDC Chief Operating Officer and the newly appointed Strategic Director, Andrew Small would take on the role of Chief Finance Officer when he joined the organisation on 4 May 2020.
3. In the interim period Christopher Hartgrove, a Principle Accountant was appointed as the Interim Section 151 Officer. The Head of Paid Service had requested that a Deputy Section 151 Officer be appointed to ensure contingency going forward and it was proposed that Christopher Hartgrove will be appointed as Deputy 151 Officer from 4 May 2020.
4. The appointment is reserved to the Council in accordance with Article 4 (The Full Council) of the Constitution. As a result of these appointments, it will be necessary for the Monitoring Officer to make changes to the Scheme of Delegation contained within the Constitution.