



<b>CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No: 1.6</b>
<b>27 SEPTEMBER 2017</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

## **APPOINTMENT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER AND SECTION 151 OFFICER**

### **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to confirm the appointment of Alex Colyer as interim statutory Chief Finance Officer and Section 151 Officer for the Combined Authority.

<b><u>DECISION REQUIRED</u></b>	
<b>Lead Member:</b>	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Martin Whiteley, Chief Executive</b>
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b> N/A	<b>Key Decision: No</b>
It is recommended that the Board confirms the appointment of Alex Colyer as interim statutory Chief Finance Officer and S151 Officer to the Combined Authority	<b>Voting arrangements</b>  Simple majority of the Members (or their Substitute Members)

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Chapter 4 paragraph 1.5 of the Constitution states that the appointment of statutory officers is reserved to the Board. The Chief Finance Officer is a statutory officer of the Combined Authority and a 'proper officer' for this purpose.
- 2.2 The Board was advised at its last meeting that Mr Harrison, the former interim Chief Finance Officer of the Combined Authority, had resigned from Peterborough City Council to pursue other opportunities. As a result a new appointment to the post of interim Chief Finance Officer for the Combined Authority was required immediately.

- 2.3 As there was insufficient time to consult Constituent Councils on whether their Chief Finance Officers could take on this role until a permanent appointment was made, the Board agreed that the Chief Executive should appoint an interim Chief Finance Officer from one of the Constituent Councils as soon as possible and that the name of the Chief Finance Officer should be reported to this September meeting of the Board.
- 2.4 Alex Colyer, Executive Director at South Cambridgeshire District Council, was appointed by the Chief Executive as the interim S151 Officer and Chief Finance Officer from 31 August for 3 days a week until 30 September and from 1 October for 4 days a week until 31 March 2018. This appointment is now subject to confirmation by this Board.
- 2.5 Alex has held the post of Executive Director and Chief Finance Officer (CFO) at South Cambridgeshire District (SCDC) since 2009. He is a qualified accountant and is a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (FCCA).
- 2.6 During this period Alex also held two interim roles in addition to his primary role:
- (a) March 2014 – July 2014 Interim CFO at Cambridge City Council (Shared post with SCDC)
  - (b) October 2016 – June 2017 Interim Chief Executive and CFO at South Cambridgeshire District Council.
- 2.7 Previous to that Alex was Chief Finance Officer at East Cambridgeshire District Council for 8 years and was Deputy Chief Finance Officer at Milton Keynes (Unitary) Council for 4 years.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The funding for the role is within the existing budget. The annual salary would be £119k per annum on a full time basis. The pro-rated costs including any expenses is £91,000 for 2017/18.

### **4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 It is a legal requirement under the 1972 Local Government Act that the Combined Authority appoints a Chief Finance Officer (known as the s151 officer). The role of Chief Finance Officer is a statutory requirement.

### **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no equalities or other implications arising from this report.

### **6.0 APPENDICES**

None

<b><u>Source Documents</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
Constitution Local Government Act 1972 Local Government and Housing Act 1989	Combined Authority website  Legislation can be found on Government websites