

**REPORT TO:** SPECIAL FULL COUNCIL

**DATE:** 5 SEPTEMBER 2022

**TITLE:** INTERIM GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

**AUTHOR:** COUNCILLOR RUSSELL PERRIN, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

**CONTRIBUTING OFFICER:** NATASHA TERRELL, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – GOVERNANCE, HR AND LEGAL (01279) 446022

**RECOMMENDED that:**

- A** On the recommendation of the Appointments Panel, Rob Tinlin be appointed Interim Chief Executive with effect from 6 September 2022 for a period of up to six months.
- B** An option to extend the arrangement in A above for up to three months, subject to the agreement of both parties be approved.
- C** In accordance with Section 4(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Interim Chief Executive be designated Head of Paid Service with effect from 6 September 2022.
- D** Simon Hill, Director of Governance and Corporate Services is designated Returning Officer, and Electoral Registration Officer with immediate effect pending the appointment of a permanent chief executive.

**BACKGROUND**

1. The previous Chief Executive retired with effect from 27 July 2022.
2. The Leader has been working with the Appointment's Panel to undertake the recruitment process for an Interim Chief Executive who will help in overseeing the appointment of the new permanent Chief Executive, fulfil the role of Head of Paid Service for that period and undertake some specific projects.
3. The Appointments Panel met on 24 August 2022 and are unanimously recommending the appointment of Rob Tinlin to the Council.
4. The previous Chief Executive undertook the statutory functions of Head of Paid Service, the Returning Officer, and the Electoral Registration Officer. The posts are statutory positions with specific functions to which the Council must appoint Officers to fulfil.
5. In accordance with the Local Authorities' (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 as set out in the Council's Constitution (Officer Employment Procedure Rules) the name of the person to be offered the appointment was

sent to all Cabinet Members asking for any justified objections to the making of an offer to be submitted by 4.00 p.m. on 2 September 2022.

## **ISSUES/PROPOSALS**

6. The Leader has sought, in conjunction with the East of England Local Government Association (EELGA), an individual to fulfil an Interim Chief Executive role for the Council pending a permanent recruitment process. Section 4 (1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires every authority to designate one officer as the head of their paid service.
7. Under the Council's Constitution, its Appointments Panel is responsible for recommending the appointment of the Chief Executive to Full Council. The Panel have interviewed the candidate and are recommending his appointment.
8. By law, an appointment of Chief Executive and chief officers or deputy chief officer can only be made where there is no "well-founded objection" from a member of the Cabinet. This process was followed as referred to in point 5 above.
9. In accordance with Section 7 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 when appointing a person to a paid office or employment within the Council the appointment shall be on merit.
10. The Council additionally needs to appoint a Returning Officer, and an Electoral Registration Officer, during the interim period. It is recommended that the Director of Governance and Corporate Services, the Current Deputy Returning Officer, is appointed to these roles again pending a permanent Chief Executive recruitment.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **Strategic Growth and Regeneration**

None specific.

**Author: Andrew Bramidge, Director of Strategic Growth and Regeneration**

### **Finance**

The post of Chief Executive is a fully funded position within the current establishment and as such the cost of this appointment can be met from within existing resources.

There are no capital implications arising as a direct result of this proposal.

**Author: Simon Freeman, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance**

### **Housing**

None specific.

**Author: Andrew Murray, Director of Housing**

### **Communities and Environment**

None specific.

**Author: Jane Greer, Director of Communities and Environment**

**Governance and Corporate Services**

As contained within the report.

**Author: Simon Hill, Director of Governance and Corporate Services**

**Appendices**

None.

**Background Papers**

None.

**Glossary of terms/abbreviations used**

None.