

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Council

Date of Meeting:	18 July 2013
Report of:	Executive Director of Strategic Commissioning/Acting Chief Executive
Subject/Title:	Appointment of Chief Operating Officer / S151 Officer

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For Council to consider the appointment of a Chief Operating Officer and resolve that the post holder also be designated as the Council's Section 151 Officer.

2.0 Recommendation

That Council:

- 2.1 shall appoint Mr Peter Bates as Cheshire East Council's Chief Operating Officer and Section 151 Officer with effect from a date to be arranged; and
- 2.2 confirms that the salary of the Chief Operating Officer be £110,000 with an additional performance related payment of up to £10,000 per annum.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 In accordance with the constitution and the Council's Pay Policy Statement the appointment of the Chief Operating Officer, (as the Chief Finance Officer / S151 Officer), must be a resolution of Council.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 Not applicable

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable

6.0 Policy Implications

- 6.1 Not applicable

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 The post of Chief Operating Officer is an established post within the Council's new staffing structure.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 The appointment of Chief Operating Officer and designation of Section 151 Officer must be made by Council pursuant to the Local Government and Housing Act 1989

9.0 Risk Assessment

- 9.1 Failure to appoint to the role of Section 151 Officer correctly would contravene the requirements of legislation.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 Appointment of Chief Operating Officer / Section 151 Officer

- 10.2 The recruitment processes for the Chief Operating Officer has been managed by the Staffing Committee and three candidates were considered as part of the final selection process. This involved a presentation and formal interview with Staffing Committee.

- 10.3 The Staffing Committee has now completed its deliberations and recommends to the Council that Mr Peter Bates be offered the post of Chief Operating Officer with effect from a date to be arranged.

- 10.4 Mr Bates is a qualified accountant (CIPFA) and is also a Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development. He is currently employed as Assistant Director of Financial Services / Section 151 Officer with Stoke on Trent Council. Prior to this Mr Bates held other senior finance positions with Stoke Council working on the North Staffordshire Regeneration Partnership and the Housing Market Renewal Programme for North Staffordshire.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Paul Bradshaw
Designation: Head of Organisational Development
Tel No: 01270 686027
Email: paul.bradshaw@cheshireeast.gov.uk