

JOINT STAFFING COMMITTEE

Meeting - 9 September 2019

Present: N Naylor (Chairman), R Bagge, B Harding, P Kelly, L Sullivan, I Darby, C M Jones, P Jones and M Smith

Also Present: R Reed

Apologies for absence: D Saunders, D Phillips and M Stannard

58. MINUTES

The minutes of the Joint Staffing Committee held on 9 July 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

59. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

60. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Reasons for restriction: Paragraph(s): 1 and 3

Note: Councillor Darby entered the room at 6.04pm

61. APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM HEAD OF FINANCE

The Committee received a report which asked Members to consider the appointment of an Interim Head of Finance, following the resignation of the existing Head of Finance. In order to ensure that adequate cover arrangements would be in place, the Joint Staffing Committee was asked to agree to make an offer of appointment to an agency worker as interim Head of Finance. The Committee's decision would be subject to the respective Cabinets not raising objections as required by the mandatory standing order regulations and the Councils' officer employment procedure rules.

The Committee noted that interviews for the interim Head of Finance had taken place and a preferred candidate had been selected. The candidate's experience was summarised in the confidential appendix to the report.

In response to a query, the Director of Resources and Head of Paid Service advised that it was very important to cover the Head of Finance key responsibilities during the final months of the Councils. The role would focus on the preparation and audit of the final accounts, maintaining business as usual and supporting the finance team. He and the current Head of Finance were confident there would be sufficient time for a handover period.

The Committee thanked Rodney Fincham, Head of Finance, for his excellent service to both councils over the years and wished him all the best for the future.

After due consideration, it was

RESOLVED:

- 1) That an offer of appointment for an interim Head of Finance post be agreed and that the respective Cabinets in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Order) Regulations 2001 be notified.
- 2) That subject to no objections from the Cabinets, the Acting Head of Paid Service and Director of Resources, in consultation with the HR Manager, be authorised to agree a start date and make the formal offer of appointment.

The meeting terminated at 6.23 pm