

Council – 10th September 2007

Designation of Statutory Officer posts

Summary of report

(1) Section 151 Chief Finance Officer

As members will be aware the Executive Director for Corporate Services will be leaving the authority in October 2007 and accordingly it is necessary to designate to the statutory post of Section 151 Chief Finance Officer.

(2) Director of Adult Social Services

The Government intends to bring into force legislation which will require Council's with Social Services responsibilities to appoint a Statutory Chief Officer to be known as the Director of Adult Social Services from 1st January 2008.

Recommendations

- (1) That the post of Assistant Director of Finance be designated Section 151 Chief Finance Officer with effect from 1st October 2007, for the foreseeable future pending future decisions on the recruitment to the post of Executive Director for Corporate Services.
- (2) That the post of Interim Chief Executive be designated as Director of Adult Social Services with effect from the date of this meeting.
- (3) That with effect from the date that the Interim Chief Executive resumes his post as Executive Director Social Care and Inclusion, that post be designated Director of Adult Services.

Resource and legal considerations

All costs are contained within existing budgets.

The designated posts are necessary to ensure compliance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Children Act, 2004, respectively.

Performance and risk management issues

The Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 requires each local authority to designate a post of Finance Officer. The Section 151 Officer has responsibility for exercising functions under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of the administration of the authority's financial affairs.

Councils with Social Services responsibilities have been able to appoint a Director of Adult Social Services since 1st April 2005 as a result of the provisions of the Children Act, 2004. The Government now intend to bring into force the relevant legislative provisions so that Councils will be under a statutory obligation to appoint a Director of Adult Social Services by 1st January 2008.

Background papers

Local Government and Housing Act, 1989

Local Government Act, 1972

Walsall Council Constitution

The Children Act, 2004

Best practice guidelines on the role of the Director of Adult Services

Signed:

Interim Chief Executive:

Date: 31st August 2007

Contact officer: John Garner
Constitutional Services Manager
✉ garnerj@walsall.gov.uk
☎ 01922 653500