

REPORT TO	ON
CABINET	19 June 2019



TITLE	PORTFOLIO	REPORT OF
Urgent Decision: Appointment of Interim Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service	Leader of the Council	Interim Monitoring Officer

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of the report is to inform Cabinet of an urgent decision that has been made. This decision will also be reported to the next meeting of the Council on 24th of July 2019.

PORTFOLIO RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Cabinet are asked to note the report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

3. Due to the absence from the office of the permanent Chief Executive (on special leave) it was necessary to take urgent action to appoint someone – on an interim basis – to fulfil this role.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

4. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Excellence and Financial Sustainability	x
Health and Wellbeing	
Place	

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

People	
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PROPOSALS (e.g. RATIONALE, DETAIL, FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT)

5. On the 23rd of May 2019 our permanent Chief Executive commenced a period of special leave. It is unclear how long this will last. It was therefore imperative to appoint someone to fulfil the statutory role of Head of Paid Service in her absence.
6. Accordingly (on the 23rd of May) an urgent decision was made – further to Standing Order 35 of the Council’s procedure rules – to appoint Mr Gary Hall to fulfil this role on an interim basis. The intention is that a report will be brought to full Council on the 24th of July for a decision by full Council as to the way forward (in the event that the Permanent Chief Executive has not returned to the office).
7. The Standing Order 35 decision was made by the Interim Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
8. The Standing Order 35 decision was also signed by Cllr David Howarth in his capacity as Chair of Scrutiny. Cllr Howarth signed this decision to confirm that he accepted that in these circumstances there were genuine exceptional circumstances which necessitated the use of our urgency procedures.
9. Mr Gary Hall is Chief Executive of Chorley Borough Council. He has a good knowledge of the workings of this council. He will divide his time between the two councils.

CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

10. The urgency of the decision required prompt action. The Leader liaised with his Cabinet colleagues and the Chair of Scrutiny. Chorley Borough Council were also spoken to.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

11. A council must have a Head of Paid Service. There is no option in this regard. Once it was known that our Permanent Chief Executive would not be around then we had to appoint an Interim Head of Paid Service.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Please see the Section 151 Officer comments below

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

13. Please see the Monitoring Officer comments below

AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS

14. There are no Air Quality implications

HUMAN RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

15. Mr Gary Hall has been appointed Chief Executive on an interim basis. The intention is that a further report will be brought back to full Council on the 24th of July.

ICT/TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

16. No implications here

PROPERTY AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

17. No implications here

RISK MANAGEMENT

18. A failure to have a Head of Paid Service could result in legal challenge to the council.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT

19. All relevant Equality implications need to be identified.

RELEVANT DIRECTORS RECOMMENDATIONS

20. Cabinet are asked to note this report.

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

21. Chorley Council will recharge South Ribble Borough Council 50% of the actual salary costs for the duration of the appointment. The cost for the interim 6 week period is estimated to be £8,000. This cost can be contained within existing budgets through vacancy management. Any subsequent reports on this matter will include an update on any financial implications.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

22. The Head of Paid Service is one of the three statutory officers of the council. We must have someone fulfilling this role to be legally compliant. Hence in the absence of our permanent Chief Executive it was paramount that we appointed someone on an interim basis.

There are no background papers to this report

There are no appendices to this report

LT Member's Name: David Whelan
Job Title: Interim Monitoring Officer

Report Author:	Telephone:	Date:
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