

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 18 FEBRUARY 2009

REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

9. APPOINTMENT OF SECTION 151 OFFICER

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

'D' RECOMMENDATION - that Alan Madin be appointed as the Council's Section 151 Officer effective from 2 March 2009.

1.0 Purpose/Summary of Report

1.1 To appoint the Section 151 Officer.

2.0 Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/Objectives

Fit for purpose, services fit for you

Deliver customer focused services by maintaining and developing a well managed and publicly accountable organisation.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Council is required to appoint formally the statutory position of the Chief Financial Officer (Section 151 Officer) under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

4.0 Report

4.1 Council is invited to consider the appointment to the Chief Financial Officer (Section 151 Officer) post.

4.2 According to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) there are five key roles that are critical to the achievement of a Chief Finance Officer's statutory responsibilities;

- maintaining strong financial management underpinned by effective financial controls;
- contributing to corporate management and leadership;

- supporting and advising democratically elected representatives;
- supporting and advising officers in their operational roles; and
- leading and managing an effective and responsive financial service.

4.3 Following a recruitment process, Alan Madin has been appointed as the Director of Internal Services. He will commence his duties on 2 March 2009 and it is proposed that he be appointed as the Council's Section 151 Officer. Alan Madin has considerable expertise and experience and has the appropriate qualifications.

5.0 Consultation

5.1 The Council's External Auditors have been consulted.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 It is a Council function to appoint the Council's statutory officers.

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 The Section 151 officer is responsible for the sound administration of the Council's financial affairs.

8.0 Human Resource Implications

8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management Implications

9.1 Council is required by statute to make these appointments.

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972, Local Government and Finance Act 1988 and the Chief Finance Officer Protocol

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