

East Herts Council Report

Leadership Team Meeting

Date of meeting: Tuesday 11 February 2025

Report by: Councillor (insert full name) –

Report title: Appointment of S151 Officer

Ward(s) affected: (All Wards);

Summary – In accordance with section 151 of the Local Government act 1972, Brian Moldon to be confirmed as the Council's Chief Financial Officer/Section 151 Officer with effect from 1st April 2025

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNCIL

- a) That the appointment of Brian Moldon as the Council's Chief Financial Officer and Section 151 Officer with effect from 1st April 2025 be approved**

1.0 Proposal(s)

- 1.1 That the appointment of Brian Moldon commencing 1st April 2025 as Chief Financial Officer/Section 151 Officer be confirmed.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has a duty to appoint a Chief Financial Officer ("S.151 Officer").
- 2.2 As a result of the departure of Steven Linnett, following his retirement as S.151 Officer, with effect from 1st December 2024, an interim appointment was been made, and Mathew Crosby was appointed to the role of Chief Financial Officer/Section

151 Officer on an interim basis with effect from 2nd December 2024. Following an open competitive process, Brian Moldon was offered and accepted the position of permanent Chief Financial Officer/Section 151 Officer and will take up his position on 1st April 2025.

2.3 Part 2, Chapter 10 of the Council's Constitution provides, at Item 2j, that the Council will engage designated chief officers. The posts listed include the Chief Financial (s.151 Officer). The appointment of the Chief Financial Officer is to be carried out by the Chief Executive, and ratified by Council.

3.0 Reason(s)

3.1 To comply with the requirements of section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

4.0 Options

4.1 NONE

5.0 Risks

5.1 The Council would act unlawfully by not appointing an Officer to the post of s.151 Officer

6.0 Implications/Consultations

6.1 The Leader and Executive Member for Financial Sustainability were part of the recruitment process

Community Safety

No

Data Protection

No

Equalities

No – the role was recruited through a transparent process with our preferred recruitment consultants.

Environmental Sustainability

No

Financial

Yes – Due to market forces a market supplement has been agreed in order to secure a suitably qualified candidate

Health and Safety

No

Human Resources

Yes – Senior HR Advisor has been involved in the appointment

Human Rights

No

Legal

Yes- it is a legal requirement for the Council to have a named S151 officer

Specific Wards

No

7.0 Background papers, appendices and other relevant material

7.1 NONE

Contact Member **Ben Crystall**

Leader of the Council

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Contact Officer **Helen Standen – Interim Chief Executive**

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(must be at least a Head of Service)

Report Author

Helen Standen, Interim Chief Executive

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