



Doncaster Council

To the Chair and Members of the COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT OF THE SECTION 151 OFFICER

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of Council to appoint Faye Tyas as Doncaster Council's Chief Financial Officer (Section 151 Officer) and Assistant Director of Finance with effect from 5th August 2019.

RECOMMENDATION

2. It is recommended that Faye Tyas be appointed as Doncaster Council's Chief Financial Officer (Section 151 Officer) and Assistant Director of Finance with effect from 5th August 2019.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

3. The impact of the post holder on the citizens of Doncaster is to ensure the council meets its statutory responsibilities in respect of the administration of the Council's financial affairs acting as the Council's Chief Financial Officer.

BACKGROUND

4. Following the resignation and departure of the current post holder who leaves their employment at the beginning of August, arrangements need to be put in place to appoint a replacement as this is a statutory role.
5. Following a rigorous recruitment process, final interviews were held by an established panel from the Chief Officers Appointments Committee (COAC) supported by the Assistant Director for Human Resources and Communications. A recommended decision was been made to offer this role to Faye Tyas, subject to ratification at this meeting of Full Council.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

6. It is a statutory requirement to have a designated Chief Financial officer (S151) which is fulfilled by the Assistant Director of Finance post; and is a key post within the current approved chief officer senior management structure. Therefore the only option considered appropriate is to recruit to this position, via the Council's established and approved chief officer recruitment practices.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY PRIORITIES

7.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to good fulfilling work • Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish • Inward Investment 	
	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	
	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	
	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	
	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce 	This is a key statutory role within the Council's Management Structure

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	and the successful candidate will be expected to make a significant contribution to the delivery of these priorities
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RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

8. There are risks associated with not recruiting to this post in terms of ensuring the council meets its statutory responsibilities. This statutory role must be appropriately designated and undertaken to ensure the council meets its statutory responsibilities as well as ensuring stability and effective leadership. There are no other risks associated with this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (HW 10.07.19)

9. Section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows a local authority to appoint such officers as are necessary for the proper discharge of its functions, on such reasonable terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires every local authority to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs (Chief Finance Officer) and shall secure that one of their officers has responsibility for the administration of those affairs. Chief Financial Officer is defined by Section 6 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 as the officer having responsibility for the purposes of Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the administration of the authority's financial affairs.

Section 113 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 imposes professional qualification requirements for officers having responsibility under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the administration of an authority's financial affairs and therefore the recruitment process must ensure the successful candidate holds the relevant qualifications

Under the Council's Constitution, the responsibility for the appointment of chief officers, which includes the Chief Finance Office, sits with the Chief Officers' Appointment Committee (COAC) (section 1 of the Terms of Reference). As part of the process, COAC must establish an appointment panel for each chief officer post recruitment and full Council approval is required for the appointment (section 2 of the Terms of Reference).

The appointment of Chief Officers should be compliant with the Council's Employment Procedure Rules and the Recruitment and Selection Policy and

Procedure. The appointment should be made on merit in accordance with section 7 Local Government and Housing Act 1989

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (AT 02.07.19)

10. Costs associated with this appointment, including advertising media and external specialist support through the process outlined, will be met from the existing service budget. As there is an existing post holder, this appointment is not expected to put further pressure on the authority's budget.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (JP 01.07.19)

11. The human resource implications are included within the body of the report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS (JP 01.07.19)

12. The appointment process is being conducted in accordance with the Equalities Act 2010 and associated principles.

CONSULTATION

13. Consultation has taken place with members of the Chief Officer Appointments Committee, to agree an appropriate selection process.

This report has significant implications in terms of the following:

Procurement		Crime & Disorder	
Human Resources	X	Human Rights & Equalities	
Buildings, Land and Occupiers		Environment & Sustainability	
ICT		Capital Programme	

BACKGROUND PAPERS

14. None

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