

**ONESOURCE JOINT  
COMMITTEE**

**12 July 2019**

**Subject heading:**

**Change of Havering executive  
delegation to oneSource officers  
in relation to write off of debt.**

**Report author and contact details:**

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**SUMMARY**

This report provides the Joint Committee with details regarding the change to Havering officer delegations in relation to the write off of unrecoverable debt. Current Havering and oneSource delegation schemes give officers delegated powers to write any unrecoverable debt with no limitations on the exercise of that power.

Following a review in this area the officer delegations have been constrained to prescribe this function to particular officers in consultation with relevant portfolio holders depending upon the value of the debt to be written off.

As these limitations apply to officers in the oneSource shared service as well as non- shared Havering staff they have been brought to the joint committee for inclusion in the oneSource delegation scheme .They apply solely in relation to the collection of Havering debt.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Joint Committee is asked to:

- Note the changes made by the Leader of the London Borough of Havering in relation to the write of Havering unrecoverable debt and include the same within the oneSource officer delegation scheme in relation to Havering Council only.

**REPORT DETAIL**

The Chief Operating Officer and Section 151 officer of Havering Council has raised concerns relating to the lack of political and senior officer oversight of the write of irrecoverable debt. In order to provide a more measured approach the power to write off irrecoverable debt has been

limited to certain officers depending upon the value of the outstanding debt. Appendix 1 sets out the delegation in detail.

**Legal implications and risks:**

The OneSource delegation scheme requires all delegation of officer power made by either Executive or Council are brought to the Joint Committee for adoption into the scheme of delegation.

**Financial Implications and risks:**

It is considered that the delegation changes will minimise the risk of inappropriate write off of debt and insure that senior officers and members have oversight of the write off of the larger and more controversial debts that are recommended for write off.

**HR Implications and risks:**

Staff involved in the current exercise of this power have been involved in the review and are aware of the respective changes.

**Equalities implications and risks:**

There are not considered to be any equalities issues or risks in this proposed change.

**Background Papers**

None