

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AUTHORISATION OF STATUTORY OFFICERS

Following the retirement of Christine Dooley, Assistant Chief Executive Legal & Democratic Services, and the imminent resignation of Andrew Ireland, Group Director Social Care & Learning, arrangements are needed to secure the continued exercise of their powers and duties as statutory officers pending appointment of substantive successors.

Mrs Dooley was Monitoring Officer, and Mr Ireland combines in his post the separate statutory offices of Director of Adult Social Services and Director of Children's Services. The Council has a statutory obligation to have each of these offices; moreover, the two Director offices can only be held by one person where the Council is satisfied that the individual in question is competent, and has the capacity, to undertake the powers and duties of both appointments.

Arrangements are being made to ensure continuity of responsibility for the various powers and duties pending permanent arrangements being made.

It is intended that the three offices be allocated as follows:

- (1) Monitoring Officer: Ian Burns, Head of Legal Services and currently Acting Assistant Chief Executive;
- (2) Director of Children's Services: Sue Butterworth, Head of Learning & Achievement, as Acting Director; and
- (3) Director of Adult Social Services: Lorna Payne, who will be Interim Director

In addition, temporary changes will be needed to the Council's Constitution in order to ensure that the Acting and Interim appointees are duly authorised to undertake the full range of functions delegated to them. It is suggested that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make the necessary changes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 That the following individuals be authorised to exercise the responsibilities of the statutory officers indicated:
 - (1) Monitoring Officer: Ian Burns, Acting Assistant Chief Executive, with immediate effect;

Council, 21 September 2011

- (2) Director of Children's Services: Sue Butterworth, Acting Director, with effect from the date on which Andrew Ireland leaves the Council's service; and
 - (3) Director of Adult Social Services: Lorna Payne as Interim Director, with effect from the date on which Andrew Ireland leaves the Council's service.
- 2 That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make such changes as are necessary to enable the Acting/Interim officers to carry out the duties assigned to them.

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**Cheryl Coppel
Chief Executive**

Background Papers

None.