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| Executive Member | Councillor Chris Townsend – Leader of the Council |
| Strategic Management Team Lead Officer | N/A |
| Author | Councillor Chris Townsend |
| Date | Council – 18 th September 2012 |

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| Subject | Appointment of Chief Executive/Interim Head of Paid Service and Electoral Registration Officer/Returning Officer |
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RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council is asked to appoint Yvonne Rees as Interim Chief Executive Executive/Head of the Paid Service and Electoral Registration Officer/Returning Officer from 17th September 2012 to 31st March 2013.

The Council has the authority to determine the Recommendations

1.0 BACKGROUND

Chief Executive/Head of the Paid Service

There is a statutory duty under the Local Government Act 1989 for the Council to designate one of its Officers as the Head of the Paid Service. In most (but not all instances) the Head of the Paid Service is the Chief Executive.

The Council's Chief Executive/Head of the Paid Service, Mr Darren Mephram, leaves the authority on 16th September 202 to take up a new appointment elsewhere in the country.

To allow the Council the time and opportunity to consider how it wishes to address the position of Chief Executive/Head of the Paid Service on a longer term basis, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Chris Townsend, has had a number of discussions to enable a temporary arrangement to be put in place with another Council. As a result of those discussions he came to an agreement with the Leader of the County Council, Councillor David Hodge, that Yvonne Rees, the Strategic Director for Customers and Communities, will undertake the role of Chief Executive at Mole Valley on a three day a week basis.

The arrangement comes into effect from 17th September 2012 will continue until 31st March 2013 although to allow a short handover with Mr Mephram, Ms Rees' will commence at Mole Valley in the week commencing 3rd September 2012.

Prior to making the offer to Ms Rees the Leader did consult with the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the Conservative Party and the Leader of the Independents, all of whom confirmed their support for the interim arrangements.

Electoral Registration Officer/Returning Officer

Mr Mephram is also the Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer and an appointment needs to be made to cover these positions from 17th September 2012.

2.0 CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Legal Implications – As mentioned above there is a statutory duty on the Council to appointment a Head of the Paid Service.

Section 113(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 allows a local authority to enter into an agreement with another authority for placing its staff at the disposal of the other authority, for the purposes of their functions, on such terms as shall be agreed.

Section 113(3) of the 1972 Act states that where the services of an officer are placed at the disposal of another authority, the officer shall be treated as an officer of that other authority for the purposes of any enactment relating to the discharge of local authorities' functions

Financial Implications – In addition to the Chief Executive vacancy, one of the two Strategic Director roles has also become vacant. At this stage there is no intention to recruit to the Strategic Director vacancy. The interim appointment has been made with this in mind and the interim Chief Executive will put in place appropriate management arrangements to enable the council to function effectively. At this stage it is envisaged that this will result in a net saving through this is yet to be quantified.

Risk Implications – An Interim appointment takes away the risk of no Chief Executive being in place whilst a recruitment process was undertaken and allows time for the Council to consider how it wishes to proceed in the future.

Equalities Implications – There are no implications arising from the Equalities Act 2010.

Employment Issues – The legal implications section sets out how the employment of an officer of another authority can be used.

Sustainability Issues – None.

Consultation - The Leader of the Council consulted with the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of Conservative Party and the Leader of the independents.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None