

**Report for: Chief Officers'  
Employment Panel**

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	12 July 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Recruitment of the Interim Director of Finance and Assurance (S151 Officer) post
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Stacy Bailey – Director of HR & OD
<b>Exempt:</b>	Public (with exempt appendix 2 – by virtue of Paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 in that it contains information relating to an individual
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All
<b>Enclosures:</b>	Appendix 1 – Role Profile for the Director of Finance and Assurance (S151 Officer) Exempt - Appendix 2 – Panel Pack

## **Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations**

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This report sets out the process for the recruitment to the Interim Director of Finance and Assurance (s151) post. The Panel is asked to interview the shortlisted candidates and agree the remuneration package.

### **Recommendations:**

The Panel is requested to:

Following the interview of the shortlisted candidates whose details are attached in exempt Appendix 2, recommend to Council the designation to the role of Interim Director of Finance and Assurance (S151 Officer), on an hourly rate to be determined by the Panel and until a permanent postholder is in post, subject there being no material and well-founded objection by any member of the Executive.

## **Section 2 – Report**

### **Director of Finance and Assurance (S151 Officer)**

The Director of Finance and Assurance (S151 Officer) post is a statutory role for the Council and holds significant statutory responsibilities in how the Council manage and deliver services to the residents. The current post holder has resigned and will be leaving the Council by the end of July 2023. To ensure the Council can fulfil its statutory requirements, an interim Director of Finance and Assurance (S151 Officer) needs to be recruited.

A range of interim staffing agencies were asked to submit suitable candidates. The submissions from interim staffing agencies have been shortlisted by a panel made up of a Technical Expert (S151 Officer from a London authority), the Managing Director, Director of HR & OD and the Corporate Director of Place.

### **Legal Implications**

The Chief Officers' Employment Panel has delegated powers to:

- Approve remuneration packages of £100,000 or over for any Council post; and
- To appoint Chief Officers.

The Director of Finance and Assurance (S151 Officer) is a statutory role and full Council will be required to designate to this post before it is offered to the successful candidate following the recommendation from the Panel.

As the Director of Finance and Assurance will be the S151 officer an offer of employment can only be made once members of the Executive have been given 5 clear working days to express any material and well-founded objection.

The Panel is also required to report back to Council for information purposes on all such approved remuneration packages.

## **Financial Implications**

The Director of Finance and Assurance (S151 Officer) role is graded at D3, £132,168 - £145,575. The cost of this post, which is budgeted for, and part of the establishment is £198,564 (including employers oncosts).

## **Risk Management Implications**

Risks included on corporate or directorate risk register? **No**

Separate risk register in place? **No**

The relevant risks contained in the register are attached/summarised below. **n/a**

## **Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? **No**

- The role quoted in this report has a responsibility to deliver the Council's vision and values by addressing inequalities faced by the residents of Harrow.
- One of the responsibilities of this postholder is to promote equality, diversity and inclusion and the reduction of inequalities ensuring that everyone can contribute through everyday actions to deliver the required health and wellbeing outcomes.

## **Council Priorities**

1. **A council that puts residents first**
2. **A borough that is clean and safe**
3. **A place where those in need are supported**

## **Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance**

**Statutory Officer: Sharon Daniels**

Signed on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer

**Date: 30/06/2023**

**Statutory Officer: Jessica Farmer**

Signed by the Monitoring Officer

**Date: 30/06/2023**

**Chief Officer: Alex Dewsnap**

Signed by the Managing Director

**Date: 30/06/2023**

## **Mandatory Checks**

**Ward Councillors notified: NO, as it impacts on all Wards**

## **Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers**

**Contact:** Akhil Wilson, Head of Resourcing, Akhil.wilson@harrow.gov.uk

**Background Papers:** None

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

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| 1. Consultation | NO |
| 2. Priorities   | NO |