

23 March 2016		ITEM: 15
Council		
To Approve the Appointment of the Corporate Director of Children's Services		
Wards and communities affected: N/A	Key Decision: N/A	
Report of: Chief Executive, Lyn Carpenter		
Accountable Head of Service: N/A		
Accountable Director: Chief Executive, Lyn Carpenter		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

This report seeks the agreement of Council to appoint a Corporate Director of Children's Services.

The Council is required to appoint a Director of Children's Services to fulfil statutory functions and comply with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Following a robust selection process General Services Committee interviewed candidates on 2 March 2016 and unanimously agreed to:

- Recommend to Council to appoint Rory Patterson as Corporate Director of Children's Services

The Council are requested to agree to the recommendation of the General Services Committee.

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 To approve in accordance with the Council's Constitution the appointment of Rory Patterson as Corporate Director of Children's Services.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 Following the resignation of Carmel Littleton, the previous permanent Director of Children's Services, Council approved General Services Committee to

make arrangements for the recruitment of a Corporate Director of Children's Services.

- 2.2 In partnership with a specialist recruitment agency a full search process was conducted to identify suitably qualified and experienced candidates for the role. During February, General Services Committee met to agree a long list of candidates to undergo professional technical assessment. General Services subsequently agreed a short list of candidates.
- 2.3 A robust selection process was conducted including a full day of Stakeholder Panels on 29 February and panel interviews on 2 March.
- 2.4 The report asks Council to approve the recommendation of General Services Committee and appoint Mr Rory Patterson as Corporate Director of Children's Services. In accordance with the Council's Pay Policy Mr Patterson will be paid £132,000.00 per annum.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

- 3.1 Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council has a statutory duty to appoint a designated Director of Children's Services.
- 3.2 In accordance with the Council's Constitution statutory Chief Officer appointments are confirmed at Full Council.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 To appoint a Corporate Director of Children's Services to ensure continuity of statutory functions and appropriate senior leadership of critical services.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 The recommendation in this report is the outcome of a formal recruitment and selection process conducted by General Services Committee.
- 5.2 Pursuant to Rule 4 of the Employment Rules Cabinet has been notified and no objections received.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 The recruitment of the Corporate Directors of Children's Services is essential to the Council to comply with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and to ensure statutory functions are maintained.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Sean Clark**

Director of Finance & IT

The Senior Management restructure created savings of £430k; the Corporate Director of Children's Services is fully funded within the new structure.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Fiona Taylor**
Director of Legal Services

The final decision on the appointment of statutory Chief Officers is by Full Council upon recommendation of General Services Committee.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**
Community Development and Equalities Manager

The Council is under a statutory obligation to ensure that appropriate equality consideration is given in the exercise of its services and functions.

7.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

N/A

8. Background papers used in preparing the report (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Council Report: Recruitment of Directors 25 November 2015

9. Appendices to the report

- N/A

Report Author:

Lyn Carpenter - Chief Executive