

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 14(c)
10 JULY 2013	PUBLIC REPORT

GOVERNANCE UPDATE

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S
FROM : Kim Sawyer – Monitoring Officer
<p>The Council is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Note the appointment of Councillor John Holdich as Deputy Leader of the Council; (2) Appoint Councillor Walsh to the Health & Wellbeing Board as an additional member to the Board; and (3) Agree that the post of Head of Governance be designated as the Authority's scrutiny officer under section 9FB of the Local Government Act 2000.

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 Certain Council functions cannot be delegated to the Monitoring Officer and therefore Council is asked to approve the various governance functions set out in this report.

2. BACKGROUND

Appointment of Deputy Leader

- 2.1 Under the Council's constitution the Leader is responsible for appointing members to the Cabinet. This must now include the appointment of a deputy leader.
- 2.2 The Leader of the Council, Councillor Cereste has appointed Councillor John Holdich as deputy leader of the Council and asks that Council note the appointment.
- 2.3 The Monitoring Officer will amend the Constitution to reflect this appointment

Appointment to the Health & Wellbeing Board

- 2.4 At its meeting of 6 June 2013 the Health & Wellbeing Board agreed to recommend to Council the appointment of Councillor Walsh as an additional member of the Board. The Council is asked to agree this appointment.
- 2.5 Under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, the usual political balance and nomination rules are disappplied for the Board. It is therefore for the Council to appoint Members (and officers) to the Board as it considers appropriate.
- 2.6 The Health and Wellbeing Board recommends the appointment of Councillor Walsh following the assignment of the public health function to her role as Cabinet member.

Statutory scrutiny officer

- 2.7 The Council is required to designate one of its officers as the Council's scrutiny officer. An aspect of this designation is that this may not be an officer who is the authority's monitoring officer.
- 2.8 The post of Head of Legal Services was previously designated as the scrutiny officer. As a result of being appointed monitoring officer, this officer can no longer be the scrutiny officer and therefore it is recommended that the Head of Governance be designated as the statutory scrutiny officer.
- 2.9 The duty of the scrutiny officer is to promote and support the authority's scrutiny committee and its members and to provide guidance to other members, the executive and officers of the authority on the functions of the scrutiny committees.
- 2.10 The Head of Governance is the manager responsible for directly managing the officer support functions to the Councils' scrutiny Committees.

3. IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The effect of the legislation is contained within the contents of the report.

4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 4.1 There are no background documents not otherwise published available for inspection.