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| <b>COUNCIL</b>        | AGENDA ITEM No. 15(c) |
| <b>9 OCTOBER 2013</b> | PUBLIC REPORT         |

## APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

| RECOMMENDATIONS  |
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| FROM : Kim Sawyer – Monitoring Officer   |
| That:  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The Council appoints a Chair to the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee</li> <li>(2) The Council appoints a Chair to other scrutiny committees as may be necessary</li> </ul> |

### 1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To ask that Council appoint a chair to the Sustainable Growth & Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee following the resignation of the existing chair.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At Annual Council Councillor Sue Allen was appointed as a member and Chair of the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Allen has recently resigned her seat and chairmanship of the Committee.
- 2.2 In accordance with the Council's Constitution the Chief Executive can appoint another member to the Committee where a seat on the Committee becomes vacant, but only the Council is permitted to appoint the Chair of the Committee. The Chair of the Committee must be drawn from the membership of the Committee.
- 2.3 As the Chair of the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee is also known as the 'chair of chairs', it is feasible that another chair may wish to be nominated to this Committee and be considered for the Chair. In that event the Council may have to appoint to more than one chairmanship.
- 2.4 The Council is therefore requested make one or more appointments to chair of the relevant scrutiny committee.

### 3. IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Legal – the rules for appointment of the Chair of the scrutiny committees is set out in the Council's standing orders (Constitution at part 4 section 2).
- 3.2 In nominating to fill a vacant seat on a committee the Council has to have regard to political balance rules within the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and therefore nominations will be sought from the political group of the resigning member.
- 3.3 The 'Chair of chairs' is an informal reference to the Chair of the Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital scrutiny committee who decides on grounds of urgency whether, upon

request, any executive decision is allowed to waive the right of scrutiny to call in the decision (Constitution part 4 section 8).

- 3.4 Financial and other – there are no financial implications arising from the report as the number of members of the scrutiny committees remains the same.

#### **4. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Constitution.