

General Purposes Committee Report

Meeting: General Purposes Committee

Date: 3 July 2013

Classification: For General Release

Title: Appointment of Chief and Deputy Chief Officers

Wards Affected: None

Financial Summary: There are no financial implications

Report of: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report invites the Committee to consider a change to the Terms of Reference of the Appointments Sub-Committee and to Standing Order 51, which relates to the appointment of staff in particular Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers. The proposed change relates to all Chief Officer posts but is expected to be used mainly for interim positions. In all cases the option will remain for the full panel to meet and make the appointment.
- 1.2 The proposed change will allow, in appropriate circumstances, for the recruitment process to be undertaken more quickly, which is particularly important in respect of interims.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the City Council be recommended to approve the amended Standing Order 51 (7) as set out in paragraph 3 below.

3. Background

- 3.1 The City Council's Standing Order 51 set out the arrangements for the appointment and dismissal of staff, in particular, Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers. The appointment of Chief and Deputy Chief Officers are made by the Council's Appointments Sub-Committee. Standing Order 51 () currently allows for the appointment of Deputy Chief Officers to be delegated in cases where the relevant Cabinet Member in consultation with the relevant Chief Officer considers it appropriate to do so. It is now proposed to extend the delegation to Interim Chief Officers to enable such appointments to be made as quickly as possible in appropriate circumstances.
- 3.2 The proposed revised Standing Order 51(7) is set out below, with the addition set out in bold:
 - (7) Every appointment of a Chief Officer and a Deputy Chief Officer of the Council shall be made by the Appointments Sub-Committee. In the case of Interim Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers these appointments (and dismissals) shall also be made by the Appointments Sub-Committee except where the relevant Cabinet Member, in consultation with the Chief Executive, indicates that they wish the Chief Executive or Senior Officers to do so on his/her behalf. These arrangements shall also apply to appointments of Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers made as part of the Tri-borough arrangements. For such appointments to be made the Appointments Sub-Committee (or similar) of each of the participating boroughs must have agreed.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 Standing Order 51 reflects the statutory requirements relating to the appointment and dismissal of staff. The minor change proposed in this report does not contravene the statutory provisions.
- 5. Financial Implications: None.
- **6.** Other Implications: None.

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact: Mick Steward: 7641 3134; Email: msteward@westminster.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None