

ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON THE GROUNDS OF URGENCY

Committee: Finance & Assets Committee

Date: 22 July 2021

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[W48]

1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To note the action taken by the Chief Executive on the grounds of urgency.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the action taken by the Chief Executive on grounds of urgency be noted.

3.0 BACKGROUND

Substitutes for Finance & Assets (Ethical Governance) Sub-Committee

3.1 Terms of Reference and a Procedure for the Sub-Committee were agreed at the F&A Committee meeting on 7 June. At this time, no request was made in the report for Substitutes to be appointed, as it was felt that with a membership of 7 and a quorum of 3 for the Sub-Committee, this would be adequate.

However, current efforts to organise a Sub-Committee date have revealed the potential for conflicts of interest and Member absences affecting the ability to hold a Sub-Committee meeting in a timely manner or potentially at all.

As Council Procedure Rules allow for the appointment of up to 3 Substitutes for Committees and Sub-Committees, it would seem sensible to allow Substitutes to give flexibility for this and future Sub-Committees, in the event of potential conflicts of interest, as it is unlikely that any Political Group would want a Sub-Committee to go ahead without the fullest complement of Members possible. The Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee allow for Members to be appointed from the full membership of the Council and so Substitutes could be appointed in the same manner.

An action on the grounds of urgency should enable the appointment of Substitutes by the 3 Group Leaders and training of those Substitutes in time for the Sub-Committee still to go ahead at the end of July.

3.2 In accordance with Part 3B(II) paragraph 5.1 of the Constitution, the Chief Executive consulted the Chairman of the Finance & Assets Committee prior to the delegated decision. The spokespersons of the Committee and the Leaders of the three Political Groups were subsequently notified of the delegated action taken.

3.3 In accordance with Part 3B(II) paragraph 5.1 of the Constitution, the urgent action is being reported to the Finance & Assets Committee for information.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 There are no additional financial implications.

4.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required for the purposes of this report.

5.0 APPENDICES

None

Background Documents

Location

Contact Officer

Urgent Action Memo dated 25 June 2021

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The Grange
Ely

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