

## COUNCIL MEETING – 6TH OCTOBER 2022

## AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM EXECUTIVE HEAD OF FINANCE  
AS SECTION 151 OFFICER**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Council has a statutory requirement to appoint a Section 151 Officer (Chief Finance Officer) with responsibility for the administration of the financial affairs of the Council. Under the Officer Employment Procedure Rules, the designation of an officer as the Council's Section 151 Officer is made by the Council, and this report seeks approval to designate the new Interim Executive Head of Finance as S151 Officer following the departure of the current Executive Head of Finance

**The Council is recommended to** approve the Interim Executive Head of Finance, Mr. Ross Brown, as the Council's Section 151 Officer from 17th October 2022.

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Council's Executive Head of Finance, Mr. David Stanley, will be leaving the Council on 16th October 2022, and a process has been carried out by the Chief Executive to recruit an Interim Executive Head of Finance to act as a temporary replacement. A cross party Member Panel, which included the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and the Chairman of the Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards Committee held interviews with the candidates as part of the selection process.
- 1.2 With the approval of the Member Panel, Mr Ross Brown has been appointed as a financial consultant beginning 12th September 2022, and to the role of Interim Executive Head of Finance from 17th October when the current Executive Head of Finance leaves. However, the designation of an officer as the Council's Section 151 Officer must be formally agreed by the Council. It is important to ensure there is continuity of arrangements to support the Council through the financial challenges ahead.
- 1.3 Mr Ross Brown joins the Council from the London Borough of Ealing where he has spent a number of years in a variety of senior roles, and prior to that at York City Council.

PAUL SHACKLEY  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE