

**CABINET**

**6 NOVEMBER 2013**

**CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER - SECTION 151 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**Report of the Chief Executive and Head of Law and Governance**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To propose interim arrangements for the allocation of Chief Finance Officer responsibilities.

**2. DESCRIPTION OF THE DECISION**

- 2.1 That Council be recommended to note and endorse the interim arrangements for the allocation of Chief Finance Officer responsibilities (Section 151 Local Government Act 1972) set out in the report, pending a permanent appointment being made.

**3. APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

- 3.1 It is necessary to designate an officer as Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Local Government Act 1972) for the purposes of Article 12 of the Constitution with effect from 1st December 2013, following the resignation of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services. It is proposed that the council's Head of Financial Resources should be designated Chief Finance Officer, to fulfil this role pending permanent appointment as she has the required qualifications and experience to carry out this role.
- 3.2 In the event of a Chief Officer post being vacant, the Council's delegation scheme permits the relevant Heads of Service within that Department to exercise delegated powers so far as permitted by law. This will enable continuity of services within each of the existing Directorate service areas to be maintained.

**4. REASONS FOR DECISION**

- 4.1 It is necessary for the council to designate an interim Chief Finance Officer pending a permanent appointment, and to re-allocate responsibilities for the reasons set out in the report.

**5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 5.1 No alternative options are submitted for consideration.

**6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 6.1 Sunderland City Council Constitution.

