

CHIEF OFFICERS APPOINTMENTS PANEL

MEETING, 29TH MARCH, 2010

Present – Councillors Morris (Chair), Mrs Thomas (Vice-Chair), Ashcroft, Hayes, Peel and J Walsh.

Also in Attendance

Mr. S. Harriss	-	Chief Executive
Mr. A. Eastwood	-	Director of the Chief Executive's Department
Mr. K. Davies	-	Director of Development and Regeneration
Mr. A. Jennings	-	Democratic Services Manager

Councillor Morris in the Chair

12. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Appointments Panel held on 14th July, 2009 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

Further to Minute 10 regarding the Chief Executive's appraisal the Chief Executive informed members that the 2010/11 appraisal would follow the usual process and be undertaken by Mr. S. Jones (external advisor) and reported to a meeting of the Chief Officer Appointments Panel on 28th June, 2010.

Members' discussed the process, particularly the frequency of the engagement with partners, and it was agreed that this would be taken up with Mr. Jones.

13. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved – That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in paragraph 1 (information relating to an individual) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act; and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in its exemption outweighs the public interest in its disclosure.

14. CONSOLIDATION OF HOUSING SERVICES AND NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

The Chief Executive and Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a joint report which outlined proposed arrangements for the consolidation of housing services within a single division within the Development and Regeneration Department and the transfer of certain neighbourhood management activities to the Chief Executive's Department

It was explained that, following the appointment of the Chief Officer for Community and Private Sector Housing to the post of Chief Executive, Bolton at Home, it was felt appropriate to consider the potential for consolidating all Housing Services into one Division within the Development and Regeneration Department including those services either provided or commissioned by the Council. It also provided an opportunity to consolidate neighbourhood management activities under one Chief Officer.

As a consequence of the above it was proposed to delete the post of Chief Officer for Community Housing and Partnerships from 1st April, 2010 and that the responsibilities of the post be consolidated into the existing post of Chief Housing and Regeneration Officer and that the post be retitled Chief Housing Officer with effect from 1st April 2010. This would include the merging of the existing two Divisions into one Housing Services Division.

Furthermore, in order to accommodate the consolidation of all Housing Services' responsibilities into this single Chief Officer position it was proposed that the current line management of neighbourhood management delivery arrangements be transferred to the Assistant Director, Policy and Partnerships in the Chief Executive's Department to enable both elements of Neighbourhood Renewal (policy and delivery) to be drawn together under a single management arrangement. However, the strategic linkages with Development and Regeneration would be retained through the continued close working relationships between key officers within both departments and with Bolton at Home.

Resolved – (i) That the proposed arrangements, as outlined in the report, for the consolidation of the management arrangements for housing services provided or commissioned by the Council and in relation to neighbourhood management be approved.

(ii) That the Chief Executive and the Director of Development and Regeneration be authorised to implement the proposals as now detailed.

(The meeting started at 4.00pm and finished at 4.10pm)