

Minutes of: HUMAN RESOURCES AND APPEALS PANEL

Date of Meeting: 28 February 2017

Present: Councillor (in the Chair)
Councillors P Adams, D Gunther and D Jones

Also in attendance:

Public Attendance: No members of the public were present at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence:

HRA.1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Delegated decision:

That Councillor Jones be appointed Chair of this Panel.

HRA.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Mark Greenburgh declared a prejudicial interest in recommendation 3(f) of the decision report and left the room during consideration of this recommendation.

Pat Jones-Greenhalgh declared a prejudicial interest in recommendation 3(h) of the decision report and left the room during consideration of this recommendation.

HRA.3 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Delegated decision:

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business since they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to individual employees of the Council.

HRA.4 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The Panel received a report including a summary of a review undertaken by an external consultant into historic children's safeguarding issues. The report confirmed that three senior officers had been suspended under the Council's urgency powers based on the findings of the review and the recommendation contained within it for a disciplinary investigation.

Delegated decisions:

Having considered the report, the advice of the external adviser and representations made by the officers concerned the panel agreed unanimously that:

1. The actions taken under urgency provisions be noted.

2. There should be a disciplinary investigation as recommended and outlined in the report
3. The three officers should remain suspended pending the outcome of the Investigation
4. The Panel noted that the Deputy Chief Executive would act as Head of Paid Service with immediate effect and recommended to Full Council the appointment of Pat Jones-Greenhalgh as Interim Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service in the absence of the Chief Executive
5. The Panel authorised the acting Chief Executive to make interim arrangements to cover the posts of any of the officers suspended and for the Executive Director (Communities and Well Being).

**COUNCILLOR
Chair**

(Note: The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 2.00 pm)