

Cherwell District Council

Council

22 July 2019

Revised Scheme of Officer Delegations

Report of Director of Law & Governance

This report is public

Purpose of report

To enable the Council to adopt a revised scheme of officer delegations that reflects the recent revision to various Senior Officer responsibilities.

1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To adopt the revised scheme of officer delegations at Appendix 1 with immediate effect.
- 1.2 To delegate authority to the Director of Law & Governance, in consultation with the Chief Executive, to make any amendments that are consequential on the current allocation of service responsibilities being revised, new service responsibilities being introduced or post titles changing.

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 With the separation of the partnership between Cherwell District Council and South Northamptonshire Council it is necessary to amend the scheme of officer delegations so that relevant powers are aligned with appropriate staff.

3.0 Report Details

- 3.1 Pursuant to section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council has an adopted scheme of officer delegations to ensure that it is clear that identified senior officers have the power to take decisions that are not reserved to elected members.

3.2 Following the agreement reached in relation to the separation of the two Councils the current scheme is out of date.

3.3 A revised scheme that achieves this is at Appendix 1.

4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

4.1 It is appropriate to adopt a revised scheme of officer delegations to reflect the recent reallocation of service areas amongst staff.

5.0 Consultation

Chief Executive, Executive
Directors and Directors and
Assistant Directors

Confirmation received that the allocation of
delegated powers set out in the appended
scheme is correct.

6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

6.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: To accept the recommendations

Option 2: To reject the recommendations – this is not recommended as it promotes certainty and clarity to align the scheme with service area responsibilities.

Option 3: to amend the recommendations – this is not recommended as the appended scheme accurately reflects the allocation of service area responsibilities and otherwise makes no changes to the extent of delegated powers previously approved.

7.0 Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:

Adele Taylor, Executive Director of Finance (Interim), 0300 003 0103

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Legal Implications

- 7.2 Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Council can delegate specified functions to an officer. As a consequence of updating the scheme of officer delegation it will also be necessary for each Executive Director, Director and Assistant Director to revisit their respective sub-delegations to ensure that the revised scheme of officer delegation is properly delegated to all relevant officers across the Council as necessary.

Comments checked by:
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Risk

- 7.3 Without an accurate scheme of officer delegation there is a risk of individual officers tasking decisions that are not within the lawful powers of the Council.

Comments checked by:
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8.0 Decision Information

Wards Affected

All

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

Accessible, value for money, Council

Lead Councillor

Councillor Tony Ilott, Lead Member for Financial Management and Governance

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
1	Officer Scheme of Delegation
Background Papers	
None	
Report Author	Nick Graham, Director: Law and Governance
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