



## COUNCIL

Report of: Councillor Matthew Lee, The Leader of the Council

Report to:	<b>COUNCIL</b>
Date:	<b>26 July 2018</b>
Subject:	<b>CMT002: Section151 and Chief Finance Officer</b>

<b>Decision Proposal:</b>	Council decision
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Matthew Lee, The Leader of the Council
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<b>Approved for publication</b>	Councillor Matthew Lee, The Leader of the Council Date: 16 July 2018

### SUMMARY

The report proposes the appointment of the post of Chief Finance Officer and Section 151 Officer at South Kesteven District Council, as well as amendments to delegations contained within the Constitution which relate to the Chief Financial Officer.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council:

- Approves the appointment of Debbie Muddimer (formerly Mogg,) Director of

Resources, to the post of Section 151 and Chief Finance Officer for South Kesteven District Council on a permanent basis with effect from 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

- Delegates to the Director of Resources those functions and delegations set out in the Constitution as delegations to the Chief Finance Officer/Section 151 Officer.

## **1. BACKGROUND TO REPORT**

**1.1** In accordance with Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council is required to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and shall secure that one of its officers has responsibility for the administration of those affairs.

**1.2** The Local Government Finance Act 1988 details the vocational requirements of the post-holder and the duties that must be completed. Section 113 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 requires the person to be a member of a specified accounting body. Section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 places personal duties and requirements upon the post-holder in respect of actual or anticipated financial misconduct. This mirrors the function of the monitoring officer in respect of law and maladministration.

**1.3** The Council previously appointed Debbie Muddimer to the position of Chief Finance and Section 151 Officer on an interim basis from the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 to date. On 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Employment Committee appointed Debbie Muddimer as the Director of Resources on a permanent basis. It is therefore proposed that the Section 151 Officer arrangements are also made permanent.

**1.4** Debbie Muddimer has previously held the positions of Director for Resources, Head of Strategic Finance and Corporate Finance Manager at Rutland County Council (RCC). Prior to working at RCC Debbie played a key role at KPMG's Public Sector Team based in Birmingham.

**1.5** Debbie Muddimer's management qualifications include a Post Graduate Diploma in Public Leadership and Management and a Level 4 Diploma from the Institute of Leadership and Management.

**1.6** Debbie Muddimer's financial qualifications include being a Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) qualified accountant and a CIPFA member.

## **2. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

2.1 None

## **3. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 None

## **4. RISK AND MITIGATION**

4.1 Risk has been considered as part of this report and any specific high risks are included in the table below:

Category Risk	Action / Controls
None	

**5. ISSUES ARISING FROM IMPACT ANALYSIS (EQUALITY, SAFEGUARDING etc.)**

5.1 The permanent appointment to this position is being made in accordance with relevant legislation and applicable policies.

**6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 None

**7. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES**

7.1 This position is budgeted within the Establishment list and therefore there are no financial implications arising from this report.

**8. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

8.1 There is a statutory requirement for the appointment of a s.151 officer to make arrangements for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs. That appointment must be made by Council from one of its officers or through a sharing arrangement. The post of s151 officer must be regarded as a politically restricted post. The proposed appointee has the required qualifications as detailed in the report which are specified bodies recognised at s.113 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.

**9. COMMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES**

9.1 None

**10. APPENDIX**

10.1 None

**11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1 Minutes of the Employment Committee 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018:  
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=638&MIId=3607&Ver=4>