

# Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority Meeting

**Date** 28 September 2022

**Title** Appointment of the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer and Director of Resources (s151 Officer) - Supplementary Report

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**Report from:** Leader of the Council and Chair of the Senior Appointments Committee

**Report Author:** LGR Technical Lead, OD&HR Workstream

**Wards:** Wards

**Key Decision:** No

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## 1.0 Purpose/Summary of report

1.1 This is a supplementary report which updates Members on the process in relation to the appointment to the roles of Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer (s151 Officer) for Westmorland and Furness Council.

1.2 The interviews for both roles took place on 15 and 16 September 2022 and recommendations are made to the Shadow Authority in respect of each role.

## Recommendation

### 2.1 It is recommended that the Shadow Authority:-

- (1) Agrees the recommendation by the Senior Appointments Committee to appoint Pam Duke as Director of Resources and the designated Chief Finance/section 151 Officer for Westmorland and Furness Council with effect from 31 December 2022.**
- (2) Agrees the recommended salary range of £125000 to £140000, for the nominated candidate for the role of Director of Resources in accordance with the approved Pay Policy for Tier 2 Officers.**
- (3) Notes the intention to externally re-advertise the post of Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer.**

### **3.0 Background and Proposals**

- 3.1 The Structural Change Order requires that each Shadow Authority must before 31 December 2022 appoint a person to become, on and after that date, in the case of Westmorland and Furness Council, that Council's Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance (s151) Officer.
- 3.2 Interviews were held on the 16 September 2022 in respect of the role of Director of Resources. This role will undertake the statutory role of the Chief Finance and Section 151 Officer and will sit at Tier 2 within the new Authority's Structure.
- 3.3 Members of the Senior Appointments Committee have recommended that Pam Duke is appointed to the role of Director of Resources and formally designated as the Council's Chief Finance and Section 151 Officer with effect from 31 December 2022.
- 3.4 Following the meeting, and in accordance with the requirements set out in the Employment Procedure Rules within the Shadow Authority's Constitution, all members of the Shadow Cabinet were notified of the proposed appointment and given the opportunity to object to the proposed appointment. No objections have been received.
- 3.5 Members will no doubt be aware that Pam Duke is currently the nominated Section 151 /Chief Finance Officer for Cumbria County Council. She is an experienced and inspirational leader with over 33 years' experience of strategic and operational leadership and management across various disciplines. This includes finance, performance and risk, frontline care services and commercial and investment activities including the Cumbria Local Government Pension Scheme. She is a very experienced finance professional and has a strong track record in delivering transformational change including building an effective organisational culture and developing high performing teams.
- 3.6 In accordance with the Councils Pay Policy (which is the subject of a separate report on the Shadow Authority Agenda) the recommended salary range for the post is £125000 to £140000 and the Interim Head of Paid Service has been authorised by the Committee to negotiate an appropriate salary point within the approved range in consultation with the Vice Chair of the Committee (who chaired the Senior Appointments Committee meeting in the Leader's absence).
- 3.7 Interviews were also held on the 15 September 2022 in respect of the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer. In the event the Senior Appointment Committee unfortunately felt unable to make an appointment and have therefore agreed that the post be re-advertised on an external basis. Members will kept informed as to progress given the requirements of the Structural Change Order to make an appointment to the statutory role of Monitoring Officer.

## **Recommendation**

- 3.8 Members are asked to agree to the recommendation from the Senior Appointment Committee that Pam Duke be appointed as Director of Resources and designated Chief Finance/s151 Officer at a recommended salary range of £125- £140,000.
- 3.7 Members are also asked to note the intention to re- advertise the post of Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer.

### **4.0 Contact Officers:**

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