

Bath & North East Somerset Council	
MEETING: Restructuring Implementation Committee	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
DATE: 1 September 2020	
TITLE: Interim appointment of DASS and DCS	
WARD: ALL	
REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 To seek the Committee's approval of interim appointments to the statutory posts of Director of Adult Social Services and Director of Children's Services (including Education) from 1 September 2020 to 31 December 2020.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority on behalf of the RIC to appoint Lesley Hutchinson, Director of Adult Social Care, Complex and Specialist Commissioning as the Interim Director of Adult Social Services.
- 2.2 That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority on behalf of the RIC to appoint Mary Kearney-Knowles, Director of Children and Young People's Services, as the Interim Director of Children's Services (including Education).

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial implications of these interim appointments.

4 THE REPORT

- 4.1 The Corporate Director for People and Communities service areas, Mike Bowden, has resigned his position with notice expiring on 31 August 2020. He holds the statutory roles of Director of Adult Social Services (DASS), and Director of Children's Services (DCS), including Education.
- 4.2 Lesley Hutchinson is the Council's Director of Adult Social Care, Complex and Specialist Commissioning and has been in post since May 2019. She has the necessary skills and experience to undertake the DASS role as part of her Director role on an interim basis from 1 September 2020 to 31 December 2020 in the first instance. Lesley will report directly to the Chief Executive.
- 4.3 Mary Kearney-Knowles is the Council's Director of Children and Young People's Services and has been in post since May 2019. She has the necessary skills and experience to undertake the DCS role (including Education) as part of her Director role on an interim basis from 1 September 2020 to 31 December 2020 in the first instance. Chris Wilford, Director of Education will report to the DCS for this period. Mary will report directly to the Chief Executive.

- 4.4 Mike Bowden has been working with the two Directors to ensure a safe and effective handover of responsibilities. Additional support and mentoring has been identified for both Directors.
- 4.5 These appointments have been discussed and agreed by Councillor Rob Appleby, Cabinet Member for Adults and Councillor Kevin Guy, Cabinet Member for Children. No member of cabinet has raised any objections to these appointments. Tracey Cox, Chief Executive of BSW CCG has also been consulted on these appointments and is in agreement.
- 4.6 The Chief Executive is working with the Leader and Deputy Leader and the Director of HR&OD to bring forward proposals for a senior management restructure by 1 January 2021. A further report will be provided to the RIC as these proposals are developed.

5 EQUALITIES AND RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 These interim appointments have been made with advice from the Corporate Director and the Director of HR&OD. The affected Directors have been consulted and have agreed to undertake these roles.
- 5.2 Appointments to these roles on a substantive basis will be actioned in accordance with the Council policy and procedure and a further report will be provided to the RIC.

6 ADVICE SOUGHT

- 6.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer has had the opportunity to input to this report and has cleared it for circulation.

Contact person	<i>Will Godfrey, Chief Executive (Tel: 01225 477410)</i>
Background papers	None
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