



APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE – 18TH OCTOBER 2013

PUBLIC INTEREST TEST - EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE OF DOCUMENTS SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**REPORT BY: HEAD OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND ORGANISATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**

I have considered grounds for exemption of information contained in the report referred to above and make the following recommendations to the Proper Officer:-

EXEMPTIONS APPLYING TO THE REPORT:

Information relating to particular individuals (paragraph 12).

FACTORS IN FAVOUR OF DISCLOSURE:

There is a public interest in the way in which the Council appoints senior officers.

PREJUDICE WHICH WOULD RESULT IF THE INFORMATION WERE DISCLOSED:

The report contains detailed personal information regarding individuals who have applied for the above mentioned vacant post and this appointment process has not been formally concluded.

MY VIEW ON THE PUBLIC INTEREST TEST IS AS FOLLOWS:

That paragraph 12 should apply. My view on the Public Interest Test is that whilst there is a need to ensure transparency and accountability of a Public Authority for decisions taken in relation to the appointment of senior officers, this must be balanced against the fact that this process has not yet been formally concluded and also the right of a third party to the privacy of their affairs. It is considered that this outweighs the need for the information to be made public.

The information is not affected by any other statutory provision which request the information to be publicly registered.

On that basis I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED DECISION ON EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE:

On that basis I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, and that the report should be exempt.

Date: 8th October 2013

Signed:

Post: Head of Legal & Democratic Service

I accept the recommendation made above.

Date: 8th October 2013

Signed:

Post: Proper Officer