



APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE – 28TH MARCH 2024

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

**SUBJECT: TO SHORTLIST CANDIDATES TO PROGRESS TO FORMAL INTERVIEW AS PART OF
THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR THE HEAD OF REGENERATION AND PLANNING**

REPORT BY: HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES AND MONITORING OFFICER

I have considered grounds for exemption of information to be presented to the Committee and make the following recommendations to the Proper Officer:-

EXEMPTIONS APPLYING TO THE REPORT:

Information relating to a particular individual(s) (para 12).

FACTORS IN FAVOUR OF DISCLOSURE:

There is a public interest in the way in which the Council deals with staffing issues.

PREJUDICE WHICH WOULD RESULT IF THE INFORMATION WERE DISCLOSED:

The report contains personal information regarding individuals who have applied for the above-mentioned vacant post.

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 requires the information to be publicly registered. The report contains personal data which is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018.

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.

Signed: Date: 5 March, 2024

Post: Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

I accept the recommendation made above.

Signed:

Proper Officer Date: 5th March 2024