

## London Borough of Bromley

Report No.  
RES12076

PART I – PUBLIC

---

**Decision Maker:** Urgency Committee

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent                      Non-Executive                      Non-Key

**TITLE:** **INTERVIEW ARRANGEMENTS –  
APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHIEF PLANNER**

**Contact Officer:** Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: (020) 8461 7743 email: [graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk)

**Chief Officer:** Mark Bowen, Director of Resources

**Ward:** N/A

---

### 1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 At the Committee's last meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012, Members approved a request from the Chief Executive that the appointment to the post of Deputy Chief Planner be made by Councillors, and set up an interview panel of eight Members. In the event, the scheduled interviews on 20<sup>th</sup> April were postponed, and Members are requested to take the opportunity afforded by the delay to add a further Councillor to the Panel.
- 

### 2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **Members are requested to consider whether to add a further Member or Members to the panel to appoint the Deputy Chief Planner.**

### Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
  2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council/Vibrant Thriving Town Centre
- 

### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: N/A
  2. On-going costs: N/A
  3. Budget Head/Performance Centre:
  4. Total current budget for this Head:
  5. Source of Funding: Council Budget
- 

### Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 1 Post
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
- 

### Legal

- 1) Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement/Non-Statutory Requirement – Government guidance/No Statutory Requirement or Government Guidance
  - 2) Call In: Call in is not applicable
- 

### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected) – N/A
- 

### Ward Councillor Views

- 1) Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments: N/A
- 2) Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

### 3. COMMENTARY

3.1 Under the Council's Constitution, only Chief Officer posts are reserved for Member appointment. However, given the sensitivities and critical nature of the Deputy Chief Planner appointment and the amount of Member liaison involved, the Chief Executive asked that his usual delegation was undertaken by Members and this Committee at its last meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2012 appointed a panel of eight Councillors. The panel agreed was as follows –

Councillors Stephen Carr, Peter Dean, Charles Joel, Mrs Anne Manning, Tony Owen and Colin Smith, plus one representative each from the Liberal Democrat and Labour groups (Councillor Peter Fookes was subsequently nominated.)

3.2 At the meeting, other Councillors were considered for the Panel, but were not included as they were known not to be available on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April, the day already scheduled for the three candidates to be interviewed. In the event, the interviews were postponed and the Leader of the Council has requested that the opportunity be taken to add further majority group Members to the Panel. This is acceptable under proportionality rules.

3.3 The normal membership of the Appointment Panel for Chief and Deputy Chief Officers is approved each year at the annual meeting of the Council. The standard membership is seven Members as follows:

The Leader of the Council;  
A Majority Party Member of the Executive;  
A Majority Party PDS Chairman;  
A Liberal Democrat Member; and

3 Members from the following 4 choices:

The Chairman of the General Purposes and Licensing Committee;  
The Vice-Chairman of the General Purposes and Licensing Committee;  
A second Majority Party Member of the Executive;  
A second Majority Party PDS Chairman.

3.4 The membership and terms of reference of the Urgency Committee are set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution as follows -

- Urgency Committee (Five Members, comprising the Mayor, the Chairman of the General Purposes and Licensing Committee and the Leaders of the three largest party groups).
- To deal with urgent non-executive decisions that are not of a sensitive nature – any such decisions made shall be reported to the next available meeting of the full Council.

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Legal, Personnel, Financial & Policy Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Report to Urgency Committee on 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2012