
Subject:	REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNCTIONS AMONGST CHIEF OFFICERS
Meeting and Date:	Governance – 5 March 2024 Council – 6 March 2024
Report of:	Nadeem Aziz, Head of Paid Service
Classification:	Unrestricted

Purpose of the report: This report seeks approval for changes to the functions and responsibilities of the Council's Chief Officers.

If Council approves the initial redistribution of Chief Officer functions and responsibilities Council is asked to approve the changes to the Scheme of Officer Delegations (Council Functions). The Leader will separately be asked to approve changes to the Scheme of Officer Delegations (Executive Functions).

Recommendation:

Governance Committee: That Governance Committee recommend to Council that the proposed changes to Article 12 and the Scheme of Officer Delegations be approved and incorporated into the Council's Constitution version 25a;

Council: That:

1. Council approves the re-distribution of functions between the Chief Officers who form the Council's Corporate Management Team.
2. Subject to the agreement of 1 above, Council approves resultant changes to Article 12 and the Scheme of Officer Delegations (Council Functions) as outlined in the appendix

1. Summary

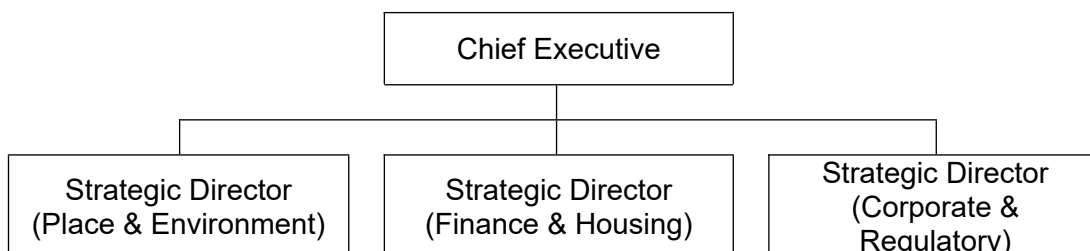
1.1 Article 12 of the Constitution, identifies the Council's Chief Officers. Section 4 of Local Government and Housing Act 1989, (which defines the functions of the Head of Paid Service) is reflected in the Council's Constitution. Article 12.02 This requires the Head of Paid Service to report to the full Council on the number and grade of staff required by the authority to discharge the Council's functions. Any change to the distribution of Chief Officer functions and responsibilities requires Council approval.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 Staffing changes have recently occurred within the wider organisation. As a result of this, it is necessary to reallocate functions amongst the Council's Chief Officers and make changes to the Constitution.

Allocation of Functions

- 2.2 It is proposed that these are the Council's Chief Officers as identified in Article 12 of the Council's Constitution with the allocation of functions below:



Post	Functions and areas of responsibility
Chief Executive (and Head of Paid Service)	Leadership, strategic direction and management Member/Officer relationships Change management Partnership and joint working arrangements Policy development Provision of external focus Civic Functions
Strategic Director (Finance & Housing) (Section 151 Officer)	Financial management and budgetary control Accountancy Client Officer for East Kent Audit Partnership Client Officer for EKS/Civica Housing Management Housing Needs Procurement Housing & Property Investment Community Services, Safety and CCTV Transport and Parking
Strategic Director (Place & Environment)	Planning & Development Building Control Leisure Services Regeneration, Tourism & Inward Investment Museums & Heritage Parks, Open Spaces & Countryside Property and Corporate Assets Waste Services
Strategic Director (Corporate & Regulatory)	Corporate Governance Communications and funding Democratic and Corporate Services Legal and Licensing Electoral Services Human Resources & Payroll Environmental Services Port Health Digital Services/ICT

Changes to the Constitution

2.3 The changes to Article 12 are detailed at 2.2 above. The resultant proposed changes to the Constitution are attached at Appendix 1.

2.4 Appendix 1 shows the necessary changes to the Scheme of Officer Delegations, to reflect the amended allocation of functions of the Chief Officers. The Leader will be asked to approve the Scheme of Officer Delegations insofar as they relate to Executive Functions.

3. Identification of Options

3.1 As Head of Paid Service I have recommended the redistribution of functions following staffing changes within the organisation. It is recognised that the new allocation of functions results in changes to the structure below and line management reporting changes for some service teams. The structure below chief officer level will be determined by me in accordance with Article 12 of the Constitution.

3.2 Therefore, the options for the Council are:

(a) To agree the reallocation of functions amongst the Council's Chief Officers and subsequent changes to the Constitution.

(b) Request that the Head of Paid Service looks at other options.

4. Evaluation of Options

4.1 The preferred option is shown at 3.2(a). This is felt to properly align the Council's functions following staffing changes.

5. Corporate Implications

5.1 Comment from the Section 151 Officer (linked to the MTFP): The Head of Finance and Investment has been consulted on this report and has no further comments to add. (HL)

5.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: The solicitor to the Council has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make (BD)

5.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer: This report on the Redistribution of Functions Amongst Chief Officers does not specifically highlight any equality implications however in discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149>.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1: Amendment to the Scheme of Officer Delegations (Council Functions) as a result of the reallocation of functions.

7. Background Papers

Constitution of this Council

Local Government and Housing Act 1989

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