

Report of	Record of	Date
Director of Communities Introduced by Executive Member (Early Intervention)	Executive Member Decision	14 March 2022

Is this report confidential?	No
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Is this decision key?	No
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Appointment of Proper Officer

Purpose of the Report

1. Due to the change of Public Health responsibilities being transferred from Public Health England (PHE) to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), we are required to approve the appointment of UKHSA North West consultants.

Recommendations

2. Confirm the appointment of consultants.

Reasons for recommendations

3. Required for multi-agency approach for the control of communicable diseases.

Other options considered and rejected

4. To not provide authorisation which could result in a limited response in relation to the control of communicable diseases or additional resource requirement for the existing Public Protection Team.

Corporate priorities

5. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	A strong local economy
Clean, safe and healthy communities	An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area

Background to the report

6. Due to the change of Public Health responsibilities being transferred from Public Health England (PHE) to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), we are required to approve the appointment of UKHSA North West consultants, enabling clear communication and efficient action to be taken by the Local Authority when required.

7. Under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, a registered medical practitioner must notify the 'proper officer' of the relevant local authority they suspect a person has, or has died from one of the following: A notifiable disease; Or an infection which, in the view of the medical practitioner, presents or could present significant harm to human health; Or is contaminated in a manner which, in the view of the medical practitioner presents or could present significant harm to human health.
8. The usual arrangements for the appointment of proper officers for this purpose is that the local authority appoints (but does not employ) the local Consultants in Health Protection/Consultants in Communicable Disease Control. Up until recently the Consultants were employed by Public Health England but are now employed by UKHSA.
9. The current appointment letter for the Consultants in Health Protection/Consultants in Communicable Disease Control describes them as working for Public Health England and so this needs to be changed to UKHSA to make their appointment valid. It is requested that the decision to re-appoint the proper officers for the purpose of the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010 is made by Executive Member Decision. UKHSA would then be written to, to confirm that we have appointed their consultants for this purpose.

Climate change and air quality

10. The work noted in this report does not impact the climate change and sustainability targets of the Councils Green Agenda and all environmental considerations are in place.

Equality and diversity

11. There are no known Equality Act implications.

Risk

12. The risks relating to the local response relating to the control of communicable diseases is managed Grace, risk management system
13. Not agreeing the required authorisation, could result a limited response in relation to the control of communicable diseases or additional resource requirement for the existing Public Protection Team.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

14. There are no direct financial implications of this report.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

15. The appointment of a proper officer is a legal requirement as detailed in the report. The Constitution will be amended by the Monitoring Officer as a consequential change under their general delegated authority.

Appendices

16. Appendix A - Appointment of Local Authority Proper Officers, Letter from Health Protection Team UKHSA

Report Author:	Email:	Telephone:	Date:
Laura Walton	Laura.walton@chorley.gov.uk		25/02/2022

Following careful consideration and assessment of the contents of this report, I approve the recommendation(s) contained in Paragraph 2 of the report in accordance with my delegated power to make executive decisions.



Councillor Beverly Murray
Executive Member for Early Intervention

Dated 14/03/2022

This decision will come into force and may be implemented five working days after its publication date, subject to being called in in accordance with the Council's Constitution.