

The Report of the Monitoring Officer

Designation of Interim Director of Children's Services

1. Purpose of report: For the Council to designate an interim Director of Children's Services.

2. Background: Section 18 of the Children Act 2004 requires upper tier Local Authorities to appoint a Director of Children's Services to discharge the education and children social services functions of the Authority. This includes the responsibility for children and young people receiving education or children's social care services within the Authority's area, and all children looked after by the Local Authority or in custody regardless of where they are placed.

3. The role of Director of Children's Services is designated to the Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Service. The current Director of Children's Services, Cynthia Welbourn, is retiring from her role on 25 January 2013. For the duration of the vacancy, it is necessary to designate an officer to fulfil the role of Director of Children's Services. Statutory guidance provides that the Chief Executive may fulfil the role, but as a temporary measure whilst the Council fills the vacant post. It is therefore, recommended that the Chief Executive be designated Director of Children's Services during the interim period until the new Director of Children's Services is in post.

The Monitoring Officer RECOMMENDS:

That the Chief Executive be designated Director of Children's Services for the duration of vacancy in the post of Children of Young People's Services.

CAROLE DUNN
Monitoring Officer

County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

11 December 2012

Background documents: The Children Act 2004

Department of Education Statutory Guidance on the Roles and Responsibilities of the Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services