



Report of the Leader

Council – 25 July 2019

Joint Appointment Committee – Swansea Bay City Deal.

Purpose:	To establish a Swansea Bay City Region (SBCR) Joint Appointments Committee to appoint a Programme Director.
Policy Framework:	None.
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that Council: 1) Agrees to establish a new SBCR Joint Appointments Committee which will be responsible for the appointment of a Programme Director for the Swansea Bay Region City Deal; 2) Appoints the Leader of Council to the SBCR Joint Appointments Committee together with one non-executive member; 3) Agrees that the shortlisting of the applicants be delegated to the Leaders of the 4 Authorities.
Report Author:	Tracey Meredith
Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Following independent reviews of the City Deal, the Swansea Bay City Region (SBCR) Joint Committee has agreed to appoint a Programme Director to ensure continuity of leadership and independent, authoritative advice to the Boards.

2. Background

- 2.1 At its meeting of 28 May 2019 the SBCR Joint Committee considered a Job profile for the post of Programme Director and agreed to proceed to recruit as soon as possible, with the said Director to be an employee of Carmarthenshire County Council but to be accountable to the Joint Committee. The salary of the Programme Director was set at Carmarthenshire's Head of Service salary level and Carmarthenshire's Appointments Committee would therefore normally be responsible for the appointment. However, the Joint Committee asked that the appointment be delegated to the Leaders of the 4 City Deal Authorities. Therefore it is necessary to create a Joint Appointment Committee which will enable all 4 Leaders to undertake and participate in the appointment process.
- 2.2 The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Wales) Regulations 2006, as amended, apply to the appointments of, amongst other prescribed officers, non-statutory chief officers, which the post of Programme Director is. As such, the Regulations provide that no more than 50% of the membership of an Appointments Committee shall comprise of executive members. In order to allow all 4 Leaders to sit on the Joint Appointments Committee the Committee must therefore comprise of at least 8 members.
- 2.3 Council is therefore being asked to establish and delegate the appointment of this post to a new Joint SBCR Appointments Committee comprising of the 4 Leaders and a non-executive member from each of the 4 Authorities. It is the case, of course, that a SBCR Joint Scrutiny Committee has long since been established so the proposal of a Joint Committee to service certain functions of the City Deal is not new.
- 2.4 Carmarthenshire County Council, as the employing authority, will manage all employment and contractual matters, including supporting the recruitment process for the role of Programme Director.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The Swansea Bay Programme Board is currently reviewing the budget for the Programme Office and will in due course make recommendations to the Joint Committee to revise the budget to accommodate the costs of the Programme Director. This will necessitate decisions on the level of services provided in kind by the partner authorities (to limit the direct cash call on the Programme Office budget), the continuation of the current level of contributions of each partner and the potential, or otherwise, to top slice city deal grant to meet ongoing running costs. As such any appointment is entirely conditional on an agreed revised budget for the Swansea Bay City Region Programme Office being set by the Joint Committee.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 Local Authorities have powers under the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000 to establish Joint Committees.
- 4.2 The process for appointing non-statutory chief officers is subject to the provisions in The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Wales) Regulations 2006 as outlined above.

5. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 5.1 The Council is subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty (Wales) and must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Our Equality Impact Assessment process ensures that we have paid due regard to the above.

- 5.2 An EIA Screening Form has been completed with the agreed outcome that a full EIA report is not required.

Background Papers:

1. Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee - 28 March and 28 May 2019;
2. City Region Joint Committee Agreement;
3. EIA Screening Form.

Appendices: None