



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Officer Decision/Mayoral Decision No.:	ODN99-2019
DECISION TITLE: Interim Scrutiny Officer (Maternity Cover)	
NAME OF OFFICER EXERCISING DELEGATED POWERS: Kim Sawyer	
DATE OF OFFICER DECISION: 5 February 2019	

Responsible Director/Mayor:	Kim Sawyer
Report Author and contact details:	Patrick Arran, Interim Monitoring Officer
Is it a key decision?	No
Is this a public report? If a key decision, it will be a public report and will be published on the CA website.	No
KEY DECISIONS ONLY	
Insert forward plan ref number	
Date when Mayor intend to make decision.	
Date report published on the website	
Implementation Date	
Does the report have any annex that contains exempt information?	

Decision taken	<i>Please provide the exact details of the decision taken.</i> The Chief Executive agreed to: (a) Retain Venn Group to provide an interim Scrutiny Officer to cover maternity leave
Authorisation (<i>delete as appropriate</i>)	This decision has been taken under general delegation to Chief Officers, Chapter 17, Paragraph 2




Background Information	<p>The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017 provides that:</p> <p>9.— Scrutiny officer</p> <p>(1) A combined authority must designate one of its officers as the scrutiny officer of the overview and scrutiny committee to discharge the functions in paragraph (2).</p> <p>(2) Those functions are—</p> <p>(a) to promote the role of the overview and scrutiny committee;</p> <p>(b) to provide support and guidance to the overview and scrutiny committee and its members;</p> <p>(c) to provide support and guidance to members of the combined authority and to the mayor in relation to the functions of the overview and scrutiny committee.</p> <p>(3) A combined authority may not designate as the scrutiny officer any officer of a constituent council of the combined authority.</p> <p>The officer designated as the scrutiny officer is due to go on maternity leave and arrangements must be made for appropriate cover during the period of maternity leave.</p> <p>Despite attempts, including two advertisements amongst constituent authorities and externally to recruit a suitable replacement on an interim contract of employment, the Authority had no candidates with the ability to fulfil this role. In addition, enquiries were made of LGSS who provide Democratic Services to the Authority, but whilst they are able to provide committee support, they were not able to provide an officer.</p> <p>As will be seen above, it is not possible to designate as the scrutiny officer an officer of a constituent authority. Therefore, the only option available was to seek an interim replacement via an agency.</p> <p>This will be for an initial period of 9 months and is dependent on the incumbent returning to work.</p>
Alternative options considered.	Please see above, there were no alternatives available



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Financial Implications	<p>The total costs payable to Venn Group are as follows:</p> <p>Hourly rate @ £45.50 per hour (Plus VAT which is re-claimed so not included) x 37 hours per week = £1,683.50</p> <p>Multiplied by 38 weeks = £63,973</p>	
Consultation	<p>List any relevant consultation undertaken in relation to the decision. For example portfolio holders, other Chief Officers.</p>	Not applicable
	Chief Executive	Signatory
	Responsible Director/Chief Officer	N/A
	Monitoring Officer	N/A
	S73	N/A
	Portfolio Holder	N/A
	Other	N/A
Declarations / Conflicts of Interests (only if the decision falls under the 'Express Authorisation' category)	N/A	
Supporting documentation	None	

Officer Signature	 Kim Sawyer, Interim Chief Executive	Date 05/02/18
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