

To:	Robin Betts – Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change
From:	Gill Fox - Scrutiny, Policy and Communities Manager
Director:	Julie Beilby – Chief Executive

BRIEFING NOTE: EXECUTIVE - NON-KEY DECISION

TO APPOINT A CLIMATE CHANGE OFFICER

Summary of Issue: The current Climate Change Officer has resigned following completion of 6 months of a 2-year contract. A replacement Climate Change Officer is needed.

Recommendation:

Appoint a Climate Change Officer on a 3-year contract

1 Background

The position of Climate Change Officer was agreed at General Purposes Committee in 2021 as a two-year fixed term post. Following the resignation of the Climate Change Officer after 6 months, there is a further 18 months remaining under the existing arrangement.

2 Main Issues

A contract of just 18 months may not be attractive to many applicants. Extending this by a further 18 months, would enable the Council to advertise for a 3-year fixed term post, which is hopefully more attractive.

3 Legal Advice

The matters set out in this briefing note are considered routine or uncontroversial and a legal opinion has not been sought.

4 Financial and Value for Money implications

This will be a 3 year fixed term post. 18 months has already been approved by General Purposes Committee. The cost of extending the post for an additional 18 month period is £70,586. This will be funded from the Climate Change reserve.

5 Risk Assessment

Without a Climate Change Officer in post, the Council is unlikely to meet the net zero target by 2030.

6 Public Sector Equality Duty

N/A

7 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

We do/do not consider that this matter needs to be considered by O&S/ SSC before a decision is made.

8 Communications

Once appointed the Climate Change Officer will continue the work with the Media and Communications team, to heighten awareness of the Climate Change agenda and associated action plans.

9 Conclusion

Appointing a Climate Change Officer as soon as possible will allow the work which has already taken place to continue. 2030 is fast approaching and there is much more to be done to achieve the Council's carbon neutral ambition.

10 Annexes

N/A