

**Representing the Council in the Community on other organisations:**

**Worthing Homes – Board of Directors**

**Report by the Director for Communities**

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 The Leader is invited to consider and appoint a Councillor to the Board of Worthing Homes.
- 1.2 The vacancy is due to Councillor Mercer resigning from the Board as her portfolio as Executive Member for Customer Services includes housing.

**2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The Council has two director places on the Board of Worthing Homes.
- 2.2 Until the elections on 7 May this year, these three year appointments places were taken by former Councillor Howard and Councillor Mercer.
- 2.3 Former Councillor Howard was replaced under the Leader's decision notice W-LDR-011-14-15. Councillor Vic Walker took this position.
- 2.4 Councillor Mercer became an Executive Member at the Annual meeting of the Council on 22 May; her appointment was made by the Leader to his Executive. As a consequence of this appointment, Councillor Mercer is no longer able to hold the position as Director for Worthing Homes due to a conflict of interest with her portfolio containing Housing.
- 2.5 Worthing Homes has requested that the appointed Councillor has a detailed background in all aspects of housing matters. In this respect discussions have taken place between the Chief Executive of Worthing Homes and the Council on Councillor Mercer's replacement.

**3.0 Proposal**

- 3.1 Worthing Homes would like to invite Councillor Edward Crouch on to the Board; the Leader is invited to consider this request and determine the appointment as replacement for Councillor Mercer.

3.2 The Borough of Worthing Constitution adopted in July which commenced in 1 November has new arrangements for the appointment of council representatives. These are expanded upon in paragraph 4.0.

#### **4.0 Legal**

4.1 Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 allows certain functions and responsibilities to be determined locally 'local choice functions'.

4.2 The Council has determined in the Constitution (Part 3 Section 3) the 'appointments to outside bodies in connection with the functions which are the responsibility of the Executive' is an Executive function with the decision maker being the Leader.

#### **5.0 Financial implications**

5.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

#### **6.0 Recommendation**

6.1 The Leader is invited to appoint Councillor Edward Crouch as replacement for Councillor Heather Mercer

### **Local Government Act 1972**

#### **Background Papers:**

Email from J Mitchell - 10 June 2015

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## **Schedule of other matters**

### **1.0 Council Priority**

1.1 This appointment supports the Council's service delivery of Housing matters.

### **2.0 Specific Action Plans**

2.1 Appointments to the Board are required by Worthing Homes Memorandum and Articles.

### **3.0 Sustainability Issues**

3.1 Matter considered

### **4.0 Equality Issues**

4.1 Matter considered

### **5.0 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)**

5.1 Matter considered

### **6.0 Human Rights Issues**

6.1 Matter considered

### **7.0 Reputation**

7.1 To be considered together with paragraph 9.1 below

### **8.0 Consultations**

8.1 The Leader will make any necessary consultations in making his determination

8.2 The report will be published to all Members who have the opportunity to make their representations to the Leader

### **9.0 Risk Assessment**

9.1 Worthing Homes Memorandum and Articles require that a council representative be present for their Board meetings.

### **10.0 Health & Safety Issues**

10.1 Matter considered

**11.0 Procurement Strategy**

11.1 Matter considered

**12.0 Partnership Working**

12.1 Matter considered