

## Proposal for a review of LHC’s governance arrangements

### 1. Recommendations

- That the proposal in this report be approved.

### 2. Reasons for the governance review

- The issue was raised by Members at the December 2020 meeting (see minute 7.2).
- As noted in the risk register, the position of London Borough of Hillingdon as lead authority is not unconditionally assured. A condition of Hillingdon’s membership of LHC – as its lead authority – is that:

*“...other options for the legal framework and governance structure of the LHC be fully explored and that a further report, detailing the options, be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet for its consideration.”*

This risk has increased with the change of leadership in Hillingdon in January 2021 and the potential departure from the LHC Board of Cllr Corthorne – the Hillingdon representative and Vice Chair of LHC.

- During the last 17 years, LHC has benefitted from the personal drive and commitment of the LHC Chair, Cllr Bevan. This will be severely missed if, for any reason, Cllr Bevan cannot continue in this role.
- The LHC Group Director, John Skivington, has signalled to the LHC Chair and Vice Chair and the Directors at Hillingdon his intention to retire from the business.
- Given that the continuity of this 17 year working relationship between the Chair, Vice Chair and Group Director is about to end, it is recommended that a review of LHC’s governance arrangements takes place while the three individuals are still in place.

### 3. Proposed action

- It is proposed that the LHC Group Director continues to be employed by LHC to undertake a review of governance arrangements.
- This would be in two parts:
  - Preparation of an options appraisal of alternative governance arrangements to be presented to the LHC Board in December 2021.
  - If required, implementation of the preferred governance arrangements in early 2022.
- It is proposed that a steering committee is set up to oversee this work, comprising:
  - The Chair and the Vice Chair of the LHC Board (Cllrs Bevan and Corthorne)
  - The three most senior officers of LHC: New Interim MD, LHC Operations Director (Mij Rahman) and the SPA Director (Clive Feeney).

### 4. Estimated costs

	Min	Max
<b>Governance review</b>		
Legal costs - options	£15,000	£25,000
Legal costs - implementation	£25,000	£40,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£40,000</b>	<b>£65,000</b>