

26 May 2016

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| Report of      | Head of Professional Services       | Author | Andrew Tyrrell |
| Title          | Changes to the Scheme of Delegation |        |                |
| Wards affected | All Wards                           |        |                |

**This report concerns a change to the Scheme of Delegation to transfer the Powers related to Tree Preservation Orders back to Professional Services after some internal staff changes. The actual powers remain unchanged.**

## 1. Decision(s) Required

- 1.1 To transfer the powers related to Tree preservation Orders in the existing Scheme of Delegation for Planning from the Head of Community Services to the Head of Professional Services.

## 2. Reasons for Decision(s)

- 2.1 This change to the Scheme of Delegation is required following a minor restructure of the internal staff related to tree matters. This has led to the return to the planning service of a dedicated arboricultural planning officer, separate to the management and maintenance of our own Council owned tree stock.
- 2.2 As the arboricultural planning officer falls under the jurisdiction of the Head of Professional Services their powers also need to be transferred to that Head of Service.

## 3. Alternative Options

- 3.1 The alternative option is to retain the Scheme of Delegation as it stands now; however this would mean that the arboricultural planning officer would need the authorisation of a different Head of Service each time they wished to serve a Tree Preservation Order. The Head of Community Services would then remain able to authorise TPOs, but would have no line management responsibility for the officers involved.

## 4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 Members of the Committee will be familiar with the Scheme of Delegation already, however copies of this can be found on the Council's website. The power being transferred can be found on page 34.

## **5. Proposals**

- 5.1 To change the Scheme of Delegation, Part 3, under the section entitled “Scheme of Delegation to Officers by the Planning Committee” to remove the entire section:

“Delegated to the Head of Community Services

1. Power to make and confirm tree preservation orders where there are no unresolved objections thereto and to determine applications to carry out works to preserved trees and trees in Conservation Areas”

And to then provide the “Power to make and confirm Tree Preservation Orders where there are no unresolved objections thereto and to determine applications to carry out works to preserved trees and trees in Conservation Areas” to the Head of Professional Services alongside their other planning powers.

## **6. Standard References**

- 6.1 There are no particular references to the Strategic Plan; publicity or consultation considerations; or financial; equality, diversity and human rights; community safety; health and safety or risk management implications.