

Meeting Date: 27th April 2021
Portfolio: Cross Cutting
Key Decision: No
Policy and Budget Framework: Yes
Public / Private: Public

Title: Extension of Interim Chief Executive arrangements with Eden District Council
Report of: Town Clerk & Chief Executive
Report Number: CE 02/21

Purpose / Summary:

The purpose of this report is for Carlisle City Council to consider a request from Eden District Council (EDC) for an extension to the agreement between the two councils for Carlisle provision of a temporary part-time support of Interim Chief Executive at EDC.

The agreement between the two authorities currently runs until 31 May 2021 and can be terminated by either side for any reason with one month's notice. Via its HR and Appeals Panel, Eden District Council have requested an extension until 31 December 2021. The original arrangement was approved by Carlisle City Council on 15 December 2020 (report CE 08/20).

Should the City Council agree it will also be subject to agreement by full council at EDC.

The extension is requested as EDC do not wish to make a decision on permanent appointment of a chief executive until the way forward is clear with regard to local government reorganisation. It is expected that the intention of Government will be known in July of this year. If, for example, LGR is not to proceed then EDC can go ahead with recruitment of a chief executive and have one in post a few months later, depending on notice periods and other factors. The proposed extension therefore allows plenty of time for a handover. Under these circumstances it is unlikely that the arrangement will run until December.

Alternatively, if LGR is to proceed then all local authorities in Cumbria will be working towards service and organisational alignment. The selected option may or may not bring Carlisle and Eden together, which will obviously inform members' intentions and instructions going forward.

Extension of the agreement would mean Carlisle City Council will continue to receive £1,000 per week from EDC in payment for services. The TCCE will receive no additional remuneration.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the City Council:

- i. agree the request from Eden District Council for Carlisle City Council to extend the agreement.
- ii. delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Governance & Regulatory Services to agree the extension with EDC