

**Tyne Port Health Authority
Report to the Joint Board
Date: Tuesday 2 February 2016**

Subject: Reorganisation and New Appointments to the Authority

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PART 1

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform the Joint Board of organisational changes to the host authority and to seek the appointment of a new Chief Port Health Officer.

1.2 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Joint Board:

- a) Note the organisational changes to the host authority including the measures being taken to ensure continuity of the level of resource and service committed to the Tyne Port Health Authority; and
- b) Appoint Frances McClen, Environmental Health Group Leader from North Tyneside Council to act as Chief Port Health Officer.

2.0 Information

2.1 Background

The Tyne Port Health Authority appoints a number of key officers, including the position of Chief Port Health Officer, at its annual general meeting in June each year.

The Chief Port Health Officer is currently given delegated authority from the Joint Board to enforce the legislation contained within the Schedule to the Tyne Port Health Authority Order 2010 and all other legislation that assigns statutory duties and powers to a port health authority and in addition has the delegated authority to make all necessary statutory appointments on behalf of the Authority. This includes the appointment of a

'proper officer' under the Public Health (Control of Diseases) Act 1984, the appointment of a 'medical officer' under the Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1979, as amended, and the appointment of a 'public analyst' under the Food Safety Act 1990.

The host authority is currently redefining, reshaping and redesigning how it delivers services and their outcomes through a new Target Operating Model. As part of this programme its Public Protection services, which delivers the Port Health function, is undergoing change. As part of these changes, the current Chief Port Health Officer, Stephen Taggart, Principal Environmental Health Officer is leaving the host authority in February 2016 and therefore it is necessary to appoint a successor.

Other impacts of the host authority changes are that some other staff currently working within Port Health will be given redefined roles. Others will be given port health responsibilities for the first time and this will require the authorisation of those additional staff. The overall impact of the changes will be positive. The host authority will ensure the same level of resource is maintained within port health and the changes will lead to more staff maintaining competences in port health work which provides added resilience. The new appointments can be made by the Chief Port Health Officer under delegated powers.

On 9 February 1993, the Joint Board resolved that the most senior Environmental Health Officer (EHO) of the host authority should be appointed Chief Port Health Officer. Under the new structure at North Tyneside Council, the most senior EHO will be Frances McClen, Environmental Health Group Leader.

3.0 Decision Options

The options available to the Joint Board are:

Option 1

To make the appointment as outlined in Section 1.2 of this report.

Option 2

To propose an alternative to the recommendations in Section 1.2 of this report.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

4.0 Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report.

5.0 Contact Officers:

Colin MacDonald, Clerk to the Authority – Tel 0191 643 6620

6.0 Background Information:

The following background papers have been used in the compilation of this report and

are available for inspection at the offices of the author of the report:

Tyne Port Health Authority Order 2010

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

1.0 Finance and Other Resources:

There are no direct financial implications relating to this report.

2.0 Legal

As a body with corporate identity, the Authority must have in place appropriate governance arrangements which includes appointing the appropriate Officers undertake and maintain the Authorities statutory functions and duties. The proposed appointments are compliant with the requirements of the Tyne Port Health Authority Order 2010 and other relevant statutory provisions.