

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

DECISION

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meeting date: THURSDAY, 13 JANUARY 2022  
title: APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY PROPER OFFICERS  
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT – CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
principal author: MATTHEW RIDING – ACTING HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

## 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To advise Committee of the transfer of health protection roles and responsibilities from Public Health England to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) with effect from 1 October 2021.

1.2 To seek Committee's approval of amendment of the scheme of delegation with regard to the appointment of "proper officers" for the purpose of the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010 ("the Regulations").

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Council Ambitions – To make people's lives safer and healthier and to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of the Ribble Valley.
- Community Objectives – To promote and support health, environmental, economic and social wellbeing of people who live and work in and who visit the Ribble Valley.
- Corporate Priorities – To be a well-managed Council providing efficient services based on identified customer needs.
- Other Considerations – To agree essential support/service partnerships with other health providers.

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 As a district Council, Ribble Valley Borough Council is required to authorise medical officers to give advice and act on its behalf under the following legislation:

- Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 (as amended).
- The Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010.

2.2 Due to the transfer of roles and responsibilities from Public Health England to UKHSA, the Council's scheme of delegation to officers (including "proper officers" under the above legislation) requires updating.

### 3 ISSUES

- 3.1 Due to the changes in structure and the transfer of roles and responsibilities, it is proposed that the scheme of delegation to officers be amended by the removal of identified officers of Public Health England for the purposes of Regulations 2, 3 and 6 of the Regulations, and their appointments be replaced by the appointment of “Consultants in Health Protection/Consultants in Communicable Disease Control employed by the UKHSA North West”. These Regulations relate to the receipt and disclosure of notification of suspected notifiable disease, infection or contamination in patients or dead persons.

### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – No implications identified.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – On the next revision of Part 3(2) of the Council’s Constitution, the replacement of the identified proper officers by the Consultants identified in paragraph 3.1 above.
- Political – No implications identified.
- Reputation – Ensures that proper arrangements are in place to deal with foreseeable situations relating to infectious disease.
- Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

### 5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 Approve the authorisation of Consultants in Health Protection/Consultants in Communicable Disease Control employed by the UKHSA North West for the duties stated in paragraph 3.1 to act on behalf of Ribble Valley Borough Council.

MATTHEW RIDING  
ACTING HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

MARSHAL SCOTT  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

For further information please ask for Matthew Riding, extension 4470.