

Chief Officer Secondment to Defra

**Summary**

Defra have made a request to the Chair of D&SIFCA to allow the Chief Officer to be seconded for an initial period of twelve months with a possible twelve month extension subject to agreement from all parties.

**Background**

With the large amount of work being generated by work on EU Exit, Defra are seeking secondments from partner organisations to bring in colleagues with suitable skill sets to provide support to the current teams. Defra have been seeking out suitable officers amongst their arm's length bodies such as MMO, NE & Cefas and now the IFCAs to work on a secondment basis for an initial twelve month period with a possible extension for another twelve months.

An approach has been made to the Chief Officer about the possibility of him being seconded by the D&SIFCA to Defra.

It is an excellent opportunity for him to gain greater insight into Defra operations but also to help Defra better understand the operation of the IFCAs through a secondment.

The Chief Officer is keen to be able to take up this opportunity and has made a request to the Chair to be allowed go on secondment.

Given the length of the secondment it is advisable that an acting Chief Officer is appointed from the current members of staff employed by the Authority. An application process will be started and candidates will be interviewed, the successful candidate will be appointed as soon as possible to ensure continued delivery of the objectives of the D&SIFCA.

**Recommendation**

- 1. The Chief Officer is given the opportunity to go on secondment to Defra.**
- 2. An Acting Chief officer is appointed from current staff members of the D&SIFCA whilst the CO is on secondment.**