

Report 03.324

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Committee Council

Author Margaret Shields, Chairperson

Transition Arrangements

1. Purpose

To appoint an Acting General Manager for the month of July 2003.

2. Background

As councillors are aware our new Chief Executive, Mr Barry Harris, will take up his responsibilities on 4 August 2003. Mr Stone's contract terminates on 30 June 2003. Accordingly, we have an interregnum that needs to be covered.

3. Comment

On occasions of longer leave periods or extended training, Mr Stone has appointed Colin Wright as Acting Chief Executive. I recommend that we follow this lead. As we know, Colin is a respected executive who will carry out the caretaker role most diligently.

There is only one area of business where Colin may feel that his knowledge is not as strong as he might wish. That is with respect to the Tranz Metro question. It is quite possible that matters could progress significantly in July. I would like to suggest to Mr Wright that if he feels, in consultation with Mr Schollum, that there could be a clear benefit to the Council in employing the services of Mr Stone in a consultancy capacity on that one issue, then the Council would support such a move.

I do not propose a particular payment for Mr Wright, since that is an employment matter that can be addressed by Mr Harris at the appropriate time.

4. Recommendation

That the Council appoint Mr Colin Wright as Acting Chief Executive for the period 1 July 2003 to 3 August 2003, with full authorities and delegations of that role.

Report prepared by: