

**14 September 2015****Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE & PROCUREMENT****CIPFA EXAMINATION RESULTS****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to invite Members to note the continued success of the Joint CIPFA Training Scheme and to recognise the performance by candidates in recent examinations.

**Information and Advice**

2. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) is the professional body for people in public finance. 14,000 members work throughout public services, in local and central government, the NHS, national audit agencies, major accountancy firms and in other bodies where public money needs to be effectively and efficiently managed.
3. At its meeting on 17 December 2012 the Finance and Property Committee approved the establishment of a Joint CIPFA Training Scheme in partnership with other local and public authorities across Nottinghamshire.
4. In establishing the Scheme the Committee acknowledged the ongoing financial challenges facing the public sector generally and local government specifically which has highlighted the need for high quality financial management support. The Scheme ensures there is a suitable pool of local talent to meet the future needs of local authorities and other public sector organisations across Nottinghamshire.
5. The aim of the Nottinghamshire Scheme is to provide trainees with the opportunity to gain experience of working across a range of different employers; during their training programme they rotate between the County Council, Nottinghamshire Police and/or Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue, Grant Thornton and one or more of the district councils.
6. This not only has huge benefits to the trainees in terms of building deeper knowledge and practical experience of working within different organisations, but also crucially allows recruitment and training costs to be shared amongst employers, thereby also allowing for a greater number of trainees. Other benefits are:
  - trainees experience quality placements across the whole of Nottinghamshire;
  - development of greater understanding and working practice for the trainee and the partners involved in the scheme;

- keeping the best talent in Nottinghamshire and keeping the best talent in public sector organisations.
7. The pass rates in the June 2015 examinations are comparable to and, in some subjects, well above the national average.
  8. In addition to the graduate trainees on the Joint Training Scheme there are a small number of staff within the County Council's Finance & Procurement Division who are also studying to gain the CIPFA qualification. In the June sitting two of these CIPFA trainees successfully completed their final professional examinations and are now eligible to become fully qualified members of the Institute. Members may wish to congratulate the two trainees on successfully completing their studies.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

1. That the continuing success of the Joint CIPFA Training Scheme is noted.
2. That the Members of the Committee recognise the achievement of the two trainees in successfully completing their CIPFA Professional Qualification.

**Nigel Stevenson, Service Director – Finance & Procurement**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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## **Constitutional Comments**

As this report is for noting only no constitutional comments are required.

## **Financial Comments (NDR 01/09/2015)**

There are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

None.

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

None directly.