



THE first four appointments in the re-structure of senior management at the borough council have been revealed.

Last month the Whitby Gazette reported that Scarborough Borough Council was taking the drastic step of slashing four council chiefs as the authority desperately tried to make millions of pounds worth of savings.

In a bid to meet a target of saving £7 million in three years it was decided to re-organise the management structure and delete the posts of strategic directors and heads of service for tourism and culture, finance and asset management, regeneration and planning, legal and support, HR and performance and environmental services.

Those positions would be replaced by an assistant chief executive and a senior management team of just three people - in effect making four people redundant.

Last week SBC's Appointments Panel met to interview candidates who had expressed an interest in the positions created as part of the proposed restructure of the senior management team.

The Appointments Committee met shortly afterwards and agreed the recommendations of the panel and so, as a result, verbal offers of appointment were made to Hilary Jones for the position of deputy Chief Executive, Andy Skelton (director of Service Delivery), Nick Edwards (Director of Business Support) and Lisa Dixon (Director of Democratic & Legal Services).

All officers accepted the verbal offers of appointment made to them, which will now be subject to formal contract and appointments are due to begin with effect from 1 April 2013.

A report will be presented to Full Council as soon as possible with a view to formally putting in place the new structure and making the necessary changes to the council's constitution as part of the 2013/14 Budget Savings Strategy.

It is unclear what will happen to Brian Bennett, current tourism and culture boss, Pauline Elliott from Regeneration and Planning and David Archer who along with Hilary Jones was one of the two strategic directors.

Roger Kaye, whose own post as head of Human Resources and Performance has also been deleted said: "This is a sensitive time for all of the officers concerned and as such, we will not be commenting further at this time."