



North Devon Council

Report Date: Wednesday, 17 July 2024

Topic: Appointment of Deputy Electoral Registration Officer

Report by: Ken Miles, Chief Executive

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This report seeks approval to the appointment of a Deputy Electoral Registration Officer

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. That Council delegates to the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) the power to appoint one or more deputies and to revoke or vary such appointments as necessary

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. To allow the flexibility to appoint deputies to the ERO. Appointment of at least one deputy is recommended in case of sickness or other absence

4. REPORT

4.1. Under section 8(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, the council must appoint an officer to the position of ERO. This position is responsible for maintaining and publishing the register of electors for the area. The Chief Executive has been appointed to this role by Council.

4.2. Under s52(2) of the same legislation, the Council may approve the appointment of deputy EROs to perform the functions and exercise the powers of the ERO.

4.3. If there is a challenge to the inclusion to or exclusion from the electoral register, it is the ERO that is responsible for convening and conducting a hearing. It is therefore sensible to appoint a Deputy ERO to ensure that these functions can be discharged properly.

4.4. If approved, it is likely that the Senior Electoral Services Officer would be appointed. That officer already acts as the Deputy Returning Officer.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1. There are none

6. EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT

6.1. There are no equalities implications as this involves an internal appointment only.



7. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

7.1. There are none

8. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

8.1.1. This report is not linked to corporate priorities but is following guidance and good practice.

9. CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

9.1. The decision in respect of the recommendations in this report can be made pursuant to Article 4.5.18 of the Constitution.

9.2. .

10. STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This report contains no confidential information or exempt information under the provisions of Schedule 12A of 1972 Act.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report: (The background papers are available for inspection and kept by the author of the report). None

12. STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

The author (below) confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and Officers: Head of Governance