

REPORT TO: APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE
Date: 23rd July 2019
TOPIC: APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER
REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Under section 5 Local Government and Housing Act 1989 a local authority is required to appoint one of its officers as Monitoring Officer
- 1.2 The role of the Monitoring officer is to ensure that the Council is acting lawfully at all times. There is also a secondary role to deal with complaints regarding breaches of the Code of Conduct.
- 1.3 Following the appointment of the previous Monitoring Officer, Ken Miles, as the Head of Paid Service/Chief Executive there is now a requirement to appoint a new Monitoring Officer in order to comply with the legislative requirements.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To appoint Trevor Blatchford as Monitoring Officer with immediate effect.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To ensure that the statutory role is filled.

4 REPORT

- 4.1 The role of the Monitoring Officer is varied but the primary purpose is to ensure that the Council acts lawfully. Whilst it is not a statutory requirement, it is normal for the Monitoring Officer to be legally qualified.
- 4.2 The Monitoring Officer is one of the three statutory officers that a Council must appoint alongside the Chief Finance Officer and the Head of Paid Service.
- 4.3 It is not permitted for the Head of Paid Service to also be appointed as the Monitoring Officer and so following the appointment of the previous Monitoring Officer as Head of Paid Service, it is now necessary to appoint a new Monitoring Officer.

4.4 It is suggested that the Senior Solicitor, Trevor Blatchford, who is currently the Deputy Monitoring Officer, be appointed.

4.5 The role is one of those whose appointment falls within the remit of the Appointments Committee

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are none arising from this report.

6 CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

Article or Appendix and paragraph	Referred or delegated power?
Part 3 Annexe 1	Referred

7 STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

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

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

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The background papers are available for inspection and kept by the author of the report.

9 STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

9.1 The author (below) confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and Officers.

Author: Ken Miles
Reference:

Date: 4th July 2019