

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Council

Date of Meeting: 17 December 2015
Report of: Chief Executive
Subject/Title: Appointment of Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The Staffing Committee met on 30 November 2015 and unanimously resolved that the appointment of Mr. Bill Norman to the position of, Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer with appropriate salary, be recommended to Council, with a requirement for the Chief Executive to finalise the offer for full Council.
- 1.2 Subsequently, Cabinet were advised and Group Leaders who were not on the Panel were also advised and were content.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The Council is invited to endorse the appointment of Mr. Bill Norman, as the Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer on an inclusive salary of £90,000 per annum.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 In accordance with the Constitution, Council must approve the appointment of the Council's Monitoring Officer, as a Statutory Officer.

4. Wards and Local Ward Members Affected

- 4.1 Not applicable

5.0 Policy Implications

- 5.1 None specifically.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 This post of Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer is an established position within the Council's senior management structure and funded within the Council's staffing budgets.

7.0 Legal Implications

7.1 The designation of Monitoring Officer must be approved by Council. The Monitoring Officer is appointed under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

8.0 Risk Management

8.1 Actions have been undertaken in accordance with appropriate policies procedures and scheme of officer delegation.

9.0 Background and Options

9.1 The recruitment process for the Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer has been conducted by the Staffing Committee.

9.2 Five candidates were considered as part of the final selection process, which involved a presentation and a formal interview with the Staffing Committee Members on 30 November 2015.

9.3 The Staffing Committee Members unanimously agreed that the position of Director of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer be offered to Mr. Bill Norman.

9.4 Up until September 2015, Mr. Norman was employed as Assistant Director, Governance and also the Monitoring Officer at Herefordshire Unitary Council with responsibility for a team of lawyers. He has a total of 27 years experience as a practising solicitor, which after starting his career in private practice in London, includes the last 14 years being a senior lawyer and Monitoring Officer at four different English Councils.

10.0 Access to Information

The following background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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