

Appointment of Monitoring Officer

CEX/55

1. Purpose and Background

- 1.1 The Council has a statutory duty to appoint a Monitoring Officer, under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 as one of its designated Officers.
- 1.2 The Council's Monitoring Officer must not also be the Council's Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) or the Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service.
- 1.3 On 15 February 2021 an Employment Panel was held with a membership of Councillors Lamb (Chair), Ayling, Burrett, Crow and Jaggard to appoint a new Head of Legal, Governance and HR. The Panel's recommendation was that Siraj Choudhury be appointed to this role and to the position of the Council's Monitoring Officer.

2. Recommendations

Full Council is recommended to:

- 2.1 Appoint Siraj Choudhury as the Council's Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal, Governance and HR with effect from 29 March 2021.
- 2.2 Approve that the Council's Monitoring Officer amend the Council's Constitution and the relevant Sub-Delegation Schemes to take into account of the above appointment.
- 2.3 Note that, with effect from 29 March 2021, the current Interim Monitoring Officer (Chris Pedlow) will revert to the role of Deputy Monitoring Officer.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 3.1 To comply with the provision of Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in respect of the requirement to designate one of its officers as the Monitoring Officer.
- 3.2 To ensure that the Council is operating appropriately in accordance with statutory requirements and with the necessary advice and guidance required through a Monitoring Officer.