

16 JULY 2019

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER****EXEMPT INFORMATION**

NONE

**PURPOSE**

To seek Council approval to appoint a Deputy Electoral Registration Officer (DERO), with the same duties as the Electoral Registration Officer, to provide resilience and business continuity in this role

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Council approve the appointment of the senior elections officer, Mrs Bernadette Flanagan, to the role of Deputy Electoral Registration Officer under section 52(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, having the same duties as the Electoral Registration Officer.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Due to recent staffing changes it is necessary for Council to make a new appointment of a DERO to support the Electoral Registration Officer in the discharge of his necessary duty as required under legislation.

The Chief Executive holds the position of Electoral Registration Officer and is also the "Proper Officer" under section 270 (3) of the Local Government Act 1972.

It is key to organisational business continuity and resilience to ensure the ERO has such resources as is necessary to perform the tasks required, and the appointment of a deputy is fundamental to this. Further Council has a duty to assign officers to assist the ERO and to allocate appropriate resources to enable the required functions be effectively discharged.

**OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The "do nothing" option was considered but was discounted because of the need to have resilience and business continuity in the performance of this duty. It is also considered appropriate the Council's lead technical knowledge with regard to election legislation should hold the DERO role

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

This action supports the principles of good governance and has no additional resource implications.

**LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND**

Nil

## **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This change is necessary due to the resignation of the Head of Audit & Governance.

## **REPORT AUTHOR**

Andrew Barratt Chief Executive

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

## **APPENDICES**