

## COUNCIL

20 May 2021

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

#### CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE STATUTORY POST OF MONITORING OFFICER

##### EXEMPT INFORMATION

None.

##### PURPOSE

To seek Council approval to appoint to the statutory post of Monitoring Officer in accordance with the Council's Constitution and local government legislation.

##### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

- approve the appointment of Nicola Hesketh (Information Governance Manager) with effect from 1 June 2021 for a period of 2 years
- formally thank Mrs Fowkes (Director Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) for her support to the Council during this time.

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the departure of Head of Governance and Monitoring Officer in April 2021, Council on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, approved the temporary appointment of Lorraine Fowkes the Director Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) from South Staffs Council to the statutory role of Monitoring Officer. This temporary appointment allowed the Chief Executive time to review the vacancy in order to ensure business continuity, create capacity and to support succession planning.

Following that review the post and duties associated with the role of Monitoring Officer were advertised internally and as such, Nicola Hesketh was successfully appointed to this role in addition to her substantive duties of Information Governance Manager.

The post is initially for a period of 2 years so as to further support the Reset and Recovery project.

To further support the transition and development of the new post holder, Mrs Fowkes will continue to provide support and advice for which we are extremely grateful.

##### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The payment for these additional duties will be paid via an ex-gratia amount of £5k per annum which is funded from savings with changes to the original vacancy.

##### LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND

It is a legal necessity that the Council has a Monitoring Officer and therefore the appointment

ensures the Council remains legislatively compliant.

**REPORT AUTHOR**

Andrew Barratt (Chief Executive)