



SOUTH YORKSHIRE
PENSIONS AUTHORITY

Subject	Appointment of the Clerk	Status	For Publication
Report to	Authority	Date	13 June 2019
Report of	Fund Director and Monitoring Officer		
Equality Impact Assessment	Not Required	Attached	No
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1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To approve the appointment of the Clerk following the retirement of Diana Terris the former Clerk at the end of May 2019.

2 Recommendation(s)

2.1 Members are recommended to:

- a. **Approve the appointment of Sarah Norman, Chief Executive of Barnsley MBC as Clerk to the Authority under the terms of s 34(8) of the Local Government Act 1985.**

3. Link to Corporate Objectives

- 3.1 This report links to the delivery of the following corporate objectives:

Effective and Transparent Governance

To uphold effective governance showing prudence and propriety at all times.

Through ensuring that the Authority fulfils its statutory obligation to appoint an individual to the statutory role of clerk.

4. Implications for the Corporate Risk Register

- 4.1 The actions outlined in this report mitigate the identified risk of the Authority failing to meet its statutory obligations.

5. Background and Options

- 5.1 The Local Government Act 1985 at s 34(8) requires Joint Authorities created under the terms of the Act to appoint a Clerk. Originally the role of the Clerk incorporated the functions of Head of Paid Service. However, with the passage of time and the evolution of both the Pensions Authority and local government more widely this role has passed to the Fund Director. The role of the Clerk is now concerned with oversight of the Authority's democratic arrangements, including a number of specific proper officer functions and ensuring the maintenance of effective relations with the four district councils at Chief Executive and Leader level. In addition the Clerk provides an additional senior officer resource available to members of the Authority in the event of sensitive issues arising.
- 5.2 The office of Clerk has, since the winding up of the South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat been held by Diana Terris the Chief Executive of Barnsley MBC. Ms Terris retired at the end of May 2019. It is therefore necessary for the Authority to appoint a successor.
- 5.3 Given the nature of the role, in particular in facilitating relationships with the Leaders and Chief Executives of the District Councils it is appropriate for the role to continue to be held by a serving Chief Executive, and given the fact that the various governance services provided to the Authority are hosted by Barnsley MBC it is appropriate that Ms Terris' successor be appointed as Clerk.
- 5.4 The Authority are therefore recommended to appoint Ms Sarah Norman, the newly appointed Chief Executive of Barnsley MBC as Clerk. Ms Norman was previously Chief Executive at Dudley MBC in the West Midlands. Ms Norman will be invited to attend a meeting of the Authority as soon as possible following commencing her role with Barnsley MBC in July and a short induction in relation to the work of the Authority will be provided.

6. **Implications**

6.1 The proposals outlined in this report have the following implications:

Financial	No additional implications, the resources to pay for the role of Clerk are included within the budget for the Service Level Agreement charge from Barnsley MBC.
Human Resources	None, this is a contractual rather than an employment arrangement, although as indicated an appropriate induction will be provided.
ICT	None
Legal	It is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1985 that an appointment is made to the role of Clerk.
Procurement	None

George Graham

Andrew Frosdick

Fund Director

Monitoring Officer

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection
Local Government Act 1985	http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1985/51/contents