

Subject	Appointment of Monitoring Officer	Status	For Publication
Report to	Authority	Date	8 th December 2022
Report of	Clerk and Director		
Equality Impact Assessment	Not Required	Attached	No
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1. **Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To seek approval from the Authority to appoint Joanne Stone as Monitoring Officer to the Authority following the departure of the current Monitoring Officer, Jason Field, at the end of December 2022 and formalise arrangements for the provision of the secretariat to the Border to Coast Joint Committee.

2 **Recommendation(s)**

2.1 Members are recommended to:

- a. **Approve the appointment of Joanne Stone (Corporate Manager - Governance) as the Authority's Monitoring Officer with effect from 1st January 2023.**
- b. **Approve the designation of Joanne Stone (Corporate Manager - Governance) as the Secretary to the Border to Coast Joint Committee with immediate effect.**

3. **Link to Corporate Objectives**

3.1 **Effective and Transparent Governance**

The Monitoring Officer has an important role to promote and enhance good corporate governance in terms of the quality of decision making as well as ensuring legality, probity and propriety.

4. **Implications for the Corporate Risk Register**

- 4.1 None.

5. **Background and Options**

- 5.1 The Authority has a statutory duty to appoint a Monitoring Officer under s5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 5.2 The functions of the Monitoring Officer are:
- To maintain the Constitution.
 - Ensure lawfulness and fairness of decision making.
 - Provide advice on the scope of the powers of the Authority, its Committees and officers to take decisions and in matters involving maladministration and probity.
- 5.3 Since February 2022 the role has been held by Jason Field, Head of Legal Services at Barnsley MBC. Mr Field will be leaving Barnsley to take up an appointment as Head of Legal Services at Bradford City Council at the end of December 2022 and it is necessary for the Authority to appoint a replacement.
- 5.4 The Authority has previously agreed to bring the Monitoring Officer role “in house” with effect from 1st April 2023 and it therefore seems sensible that rather than make a short-term appointment for three months that the process of bringing the role in house be accelerated. It is therefore recommended that the Authority appoint Joanne Stone (Corporate Manager – Governance) as Monitoring Officer with effect from 1st January 2023.
- 5.5 The Inter-Authority Agreement governing the operation of the Border to Coast Joint Committee requires that an officer of the Authority be designated as Secretary to the Joint Committee. It is not clear whether a formal designation has previously been made but in light of the creation of a robust governance function within the Authority it is now appropriate to designate Ms. Stone as the head of the governance function as Secretary to the Joint Committee.

6. **Implications**

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

Financial	There are no financial implications arising from the new appointment as these duties were reflected in the original grading of the role. There may (subject to negotiation) be a small saving on the SLA with Barnsley MBC.
Human Resources	None
ICT	None
Legal	It is a statutory requirement to appoint a Monitoring Officer
Procurement	None

Sarah Norman
Clerk

George Graham
Director

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection
S5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989	http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/42/contents