



SENIOR APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

MEETING : Wednesday, 20th July 2016

PRESENT : Cllrs. Dallimore (Vice-Chair), D. Norman and Hilton

Others in Attendance

Jon McGinty, Managing Director

Atika Tarajiya, Democratic Services Officer

APOLOGIES : Cllrs. James and Haigh

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

The appointments of Councillor James as Chair and Councillor Dallimore as Vice Chair were noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (15 MINUTES)

There were no public questions.

4. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

There were no petitions and deputations.

5. DESIGNATION OF MONITORING OFFICER

The Managing Director introduced the report, advising Members that the current appointment of Monitoring Officer had always intended to be temporary in order to review by both City Council and One Legal after a pilot period, and following the establishment of new senior management team. He highlighted Mr Lund's experience as Monitoring Officer in his previous role and noted that the proposals would generate £20,000 savings.

He acknowledged that the proposals included retaining Shirin Wotherspoon as the deputy Monitoring Officer, in addition to the Democratic and Electoral Services Manager, in order to retain access to legal advice where necessary. He noted that

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this proposal would also allow Shirin Wotherspoon to focus on growing income for One Legal which would benefit the Council.

In response to Councillor Hilton's query regarding requested feedback of Mr Lund's performance as Monitoring Officer in his previous post, the Managing Director advised that the City Council had received references as part of the initial recruitment process for the Director post but had not requested anything additional. He reflected that the length of Mr Lund's appointment as Monitoring Officer at Selby District Council demonstrated his competency.

Councillor Hilton noted there had been previous post holders who were very cautious in their approach, to the extent that it unreasonably restricted the political activities of elected Members. He commented that it would be useful for newly elected Members to receive support and guidance from the Monitoring Officer if required.

Councillor Norman commented that the meetings of the Member Development Group would be an ideal opportunity for both Group Leaders to raise any queries from Members of the respective Groups with regard to conduct training needs.

The Managing Director advised Members that he had full confidence in Mr Lund's ability to handle sensitive situations. He noted that Members had the power to review the appointment if they considered this appropriate.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL:

1. That Jonathan Lund, Corporate Director, be designated as Monitoring Officer for the City Council in accordance with section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 with immediate effect.
2. Authority be delegated to the Monitoring Officer to vary the secondment agreement between Gloucester City Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council (One Legal) and Shirin Wotherspoon to provide legal advice and related services to the Monitoring Officer including, but not only, the services of a legally qualified Deputy Monitoring Officer.

Time of commencement: 5.05 pm hours

Time of conclusion: 5.14 pm hours

Chair