

Report Title:	Appointment of Statutory Scrutiny Officer
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	No - Part I
Member reporting:	Councillor Dudley, Leader of the Council
Meeting and Date:	Full Council - 23 April 2019
Responsible Officer(s):	Elaine Browne, Interim Head of Law and Governance
Wards affected:	None specifically

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REPORT SUMMARY

Section 9FB of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) places a duty on county and unitary councils to designate an Officer to act as the council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

RECOMMENDATION: That Full Council notes the report and appoints Nabihah Hassan-Farooq, Democratic Services Officer, as the council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

2. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 In line with Section 9FB of the Local Government Act 2000, county and unitary authorities are required to designate an Officer to undertake the following statutory functions:
- Promote the role of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees
 - Provide support to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the members of those bodies
 - Provide support and guidance to Members and Officers of the Council and the Executive on the functions of its Overview and Scrutiny Committees
- 2.2 As agreed by Full Council in June 2018 as part of the wider constitution review, from May 2019 the council will have a revised Overview and Scrutiny Panel structure and format.
- 2.3 In anticipation of the changes and to ensure the Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairmen and Members are fully supported in their roles, and that the Panels make the most efficient use of their time and resources, work is being undertaken to develop potential work programmes for each panel.
- 2.4 Nabihah Hassan-Farooq is leading on this preparatory work and will also be the clerk to the Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel in the new structure; it is therefore considered appropriate that she be appointed as the council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

Options

Table 1: Options arising from this report

Option	Comments
Appoint Nabihah Hassan-Farooq as the council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer Recommended option	The council will have complied with the requirement in Section 9FB of the Local Government Act 2000
Do not appoint Nabihah Hassan-Farooq as the council's Statutory Scrutiny Officer	The council will not have complied with the requirement in Section 9FB of the Local Government Act 2000

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

3.1

Table 2: Key Implications

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
Statutory Scrutiny Officer appointed	Statutory Scrutiny Officer not appointed	Statutory Scrutiny Officer appointed	n/a	n/a	23 April 2019

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

- 4.1 There are no financial implications as a result of the recommendation in this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.2 Originally introduced by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the requirement for councils to appoint a Statutory Scrutiny Officer can now be found at Section 9FB of the Local Government Act 2000 (following amendment pursuant to the Localism Act 2011).
- 4.3 The Statutory Scrutiny Officer cannot be the council's Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer or Monitoring Officer.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1

Table 3: Impact of risk and mitigation

Risks	Uncontrolled risk	Controls	Controlled risk
Insufficient support of the Overview and	MEDIUM	Appointment of appropriate officer as Statutory Scrutiny Officer	LOW

Risks	Uncontrolled risk	Controls	Controlled risk
Scrutiny function			

6. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

6.1 N/A.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 N/A

8. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

8.1 The full implementation stages are set out in table 4.

Table 4: Implementation timetable

Date	Details
23/4/19	Appointment of Statutory Scrutiny Officer

9. APPENDICES

9.1 There are no appendices to this report.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

10.1 This report is supported by three background documents:

- Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009
- Local Government Act 2000
- Localism Act 2011
- Council's Constitution

11. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Date returned
Cllr Dudley	Leader of the Council	10/4/19	10/4/19
Cllr Targowska	Lead Member for HR, Legal and IT	10/4/19	10/4/19
Duncan Sharkey	Managing Director	10/4/19	11/4/19
Rob Stubbs	Section 151 Officer	10/4/19	11/4/19
Elaine Browne	Interim Head of Law and Governance	10/4/19	10/4/19
Nikki Craig	Head of HR and Corporate Projects	10/4/19	11/4/19
Louisa Dean	Communications	10/4/19	11/4/19

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type: N/A	Urgency item? No	To Follow item? No
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