


<p style="text-align: center;">London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FULL COUNCIL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">17 July 2019</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">APPOINTMENT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Report of the Leader of the Council - Councillor Stephen Cowan</p>	
<p>Open Report</p>	
<p>Classification: For Decision Key Decision: No</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: All</p>	
<p>Accountable Director: Kim Smith, Chief Executive</p>	
<p>Report Author: Kayode Adewumi, Head of Governance and Scrutiny</p>	<p>Contact Details: E-mail: kayode.adewumi@lbhf.gov.uk</p>

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report seeks the permanent appointment of the Council's Monitoring Officer.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That Rhian Davies be confirmed as the Council's Monitoring Officer.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1 Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as amended by Schedule 5, paragraph 24 of the Local Government Act 2000, requires each Council to appoint a Monitoring Officer. The officer may *not* be the Head of the Paid Service or the Chief Finance Officer. There is no other restriction to who can be appointed to this position.

4. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 4.1. Rhian Davies was appointed as the Council's interim Monitoring Officer from 22 March 2017. It is now appropriate to appoint a Monitoring Officer dedicated to LBHF. This report seeks to confirm that appointment permanently.

5. PROPOSALS AND ISSUES

- 5.1 To meet its statutory obligations under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as amended by Schedule 5, paragraph 24 of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council must appoint one of its officers as Monitoring Officer.
- 5.2 It is proposed that Rhian Davies, our Interim Monitoring Officer and Assistant Director – Legal & Democratic Services, be confirmed as the Monitoring Officer. Rhian Davies will report to the Chief Executive in her role as the Monitoring Officer and Hitesh Jolapara Strategic Director of Finance and Governance as the Assistant Director – Legal & Democratic Services.
- 5.3 The Monitoring Officer has the power to appoint a deputy where they are unavailable or unable to act. This is a power conferred on the Monitoring Officer and not the Authority. The Monitoring Officer has the specific duty to ensure that the Council, its Officers and its Elected Councillors and Co-opted Members maintain the highest standards of conduct.

6. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equality implications for this report.
- 6.2 Implications completed by: Kayode Adewumi, Head of Governance and Scrutiny

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Local Government Act 2000 requires the Council to have a Monitoring Officer.
- 7.2 Implications verified by: Adesuwa Omoregie, Chief Solicitor (Planning and Property)

8. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no significant financial implications.
- 8.2 Implications completed by: Emily Hill, Assistant Director Assistant Director, Corporate Finance

9. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 There are no risk management implications for this report.
- 9.2 Implications verified/completed by: Kayode Adewumi, Head of Governance and Scrutiny

10. PROCUREMENT AND IT STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no procurement or IT strategy implications.
- 10.2 Implications verified/completed by: Kayode Adewumi, Head of Governance and Scrutiny

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000
BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT**

None.