

COUNCIL

11 April 2022

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR FOR LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE AND MONITORING OFFICER

Report of the Chief Executive

Strategic Aim:	All	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	Cllr O Hemsley, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Policy, Strategy, Partnerships, Economy and Infrastructure	
Contact Officer(s):	Mark Andrews, Chief Executive	mandrews@rutland.gov.uk 01572 758339
	Carol Snell, Head of Human Resources	csnell@rutland.gov.uk 01572 720969
Ward Councillors	N/A	

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council:

1. On the recommendation of the Chief Officer Appointment Committee, approves the appointment of Angela Wakefield as Director for Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the Report is to seek Council approval to the appointment of Angela Wakefield to the post of Director (Legal and Governance) and Monitoring Officer.

2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 Under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council is required to designate a Monitoring Officer. The Monitoring Officer has several statutory duties and responsibilities relating to the Council's Constitution and arrangements for effective governance.
- 2.2 Following the resignation of Philip Horsfield last year, the decision was taken to fill the role on an interim basis pending a permanent appointment to minimise the risk of Council not having a Monitoring Officer. Marie Rosenthal was appointed as Interim Monitoring Officer on the 11 October 2021 and has been working with

members on a review of the Constitution and improving the Governance and Legal service.

- 2.3 The Officers Employment Procedure Rules regulate the recruitment and appointment of statutory Chief Officers by the Chief Officer Appointment Committee.

3 APPOINTMENT PROCESS

- 3.1 Penna recruitment agency was appointed in January 2022 to carry out an executive search of suitable candidates for the role across the country alongside an advertisement campaign. A longlist of nine candidates were initially considered with six candidates being taken forward for assessment and initial interview during February.

- 3.2 The Chief Officer Appointment Committee met on 11 March 2022 to interview the shortlisted candidates who were recommended for consideration.

- 3.3 Angela Wakefield was unanimously agreed for appointment. Angela is currently Monitoring Officer at Slough Borough Council with previous experience as Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Office at East Staffordshire Borough Council.

- 3.4 Satisfactory references have been received and a potential start date in May has been tentatively agreed.

4 COMMENCEMENT

- 4.1 Following the Chief Officer Appointment Committee on 11 March 2022, a conditional offer of employment has been made to Angela Wakefield. The offer is conditional on the decision of this Council meeting.

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 In line with the requirements within the Council's Officers Employment Procedure Rules, an email was sent to all Cabinet Members on 11 March 2022.

- 5.2 Cabinet have all confirmed that they support the appointment.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 The alternative option is for the Council to undertake a further recruitment process. This is not recommended.

7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this Report. The cost of the post is within the existing budget.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 These are contained within the main body of the report.

9 DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 A Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) has not been completed as the

information contained in the report is information that will be publicly available.

10 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has not been completed in relation to the specific appointment. However, the Council is required to have regard to its equality duty in making all decisions. The appointment process has been in accordance with the Council's Officer Procedure Rules and Recruitment Policy.

11 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no Community Safety implications arising from the report.

12 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 There are no Health and Wellbeing implications arising from the report.

13 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 It is recommended by the Chief Officer Appointment Committee that Council appoints Angela Wakefield to the post of Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer.

- 13.2 The reasons for the recommendations are as set out in the report.

14 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 14.1 There are no additional background papers.

15 APPENDICES

- 15.1 There are no appendices.

A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.