

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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Report Originator	Councillor Ian Jelley	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> N/A	
Wards Affected	ALL	16 th September 2019	
Title	Statutory Officer Appointments Working Group – Interim Report		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

For Members to receive a report from the Chair of the Statutory Officer Appointments Working Group regarding their discussions to date.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The North Northamptonshire Joint Committee agreed at its meeting on 24th June 2019 to establish a working group to consider the following:-

- *To agree and undertake the recruitment process for the selection of the posts of Interim Head of Paid Service, Interim Chief Finance Officer (section 151) and Interim Monitoring Officer for the Shadow Authority and recommend to the Shadow Authority at its inaugural Full Council meeting nominations for the three statutory officers;*
- *To consider and recommend to the Shadow Authority at its inaugural Full Council meeting a nomination for the post of Returning Officer; and*
- *To consider and initiate appropriate mechanisms for the recruitment of a permanent Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), including provisional terms and conditions, including salary, and method of selection, so the earliest possible appointment can be made by the Shadow Authority.*

2.2 Councillor Ian Jelley (KBC) was appointed Chair of the Working Group. The other members of the Group include – Cllr Tim Allebone (BCW), Cllr Mark Pengelly (CBC), Cllr Helen Howell (ENC) & Cllr Sandra Naden-Horley (NCC). The Group is supported by officers from CBC & KBC.

2.3 The Group has met twice to date on 15th August 2019 & 4th September 2019.

3. REPORT

3.1 A brief report is attached detailing key discussion points arising from the first two meetings of the Group.

3.2 In addition to the topics referred by the Joint Committee to the Group it was noted that there may be a requirement in the Structural Change Order for the permanent appointment of Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer prior to

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Vesting Day. Preparation for this was not currently covered by the Joint Committee's Terms of Reference. This matter was the subject of discussion by another working group established by the Joint Committee.

- 3.3 It should be noted that the Working Group during its discussion also raised the issue of branding for both the Shadow Council and the new unitary authority. Whilst not a direct matter for this working group, it was a matter that they wished to raise with the Joint Committee. There would be a need to ensure advertisements and documentation associated with recruitment was appropriately branded.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are currently no direct additional costs related to the work of the Working Group. Officer support will continue to be drawn from partner authorities.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Working Group is tasked with drafting recommended processes and procedures relating to the designation of interim Statutory Officers for the Shadow Authority and the permanent appointment of a Head of Paid Service for the new unitary authority.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The Working Group is progressing with its mandate and will refer back to the Joint Committee recommendations in due course.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- i) Note the report and appendices circulated;
- ii) Agree for the Group to extend its consideration to the permanent designation of respective roles of permanent Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer if included within the Structural Change Order; and
- iii) Note the request for the NNJC to provide some guidance in relation to the branding of the Shadow Council (for use on documentation etc).

Appendices:

Copy of Chair's Report

Copy of briefing note from meeting of the Working Group 15th August 2019

Copy of Scoping Report