

COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING

2 OCTOBER 2024

APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER

Report of the Head of HR

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 Under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Combined Authority is required to appoint an Officer to report on matters they believe to be illegal or amount to maladministration, to be responsible for matters relating to the conduct of Members and Officers and, to be responsible for the operation of the Constitution of the Combined Authority. This role is discharged by the Head of Legal.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Combined Authority formally appoints Rachel Antonelli as the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority's Monitoring Officer (Head of Legal).

3.0 Background

3.1 Following the inception of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority in December 2023, interim arrangements have been in place in relation to the statutory Officers of the Combined Authority. This has included the Interim Monitoring Officer role, which has been carried out by the Monitoring Officer of North Yorkshire Council.

3.2 Approval was sought from the Combined Authority in July 2024 to embark on a recruitment process for the Head of Legal role. The appointment process was a 2 day process; day one consisted of a technical interview and stakeholder panels, including key Members and Partners from the public sector.

3.3 The second day of the assessment comprised of a formal interview, led by Members of the Combined Authority, with the support of the Chief Executive of the Combined Authority and the Head of HR. The decision of the interview panel was to appoint Rachel Antonelli as the Head of Legal (Monitoring Officer).

3.4 As this role is a statutory role, the Combined Authority is required to appoint a Monitoring Officer, and it is recommended that the Combined Authority appoints Rachel Antonelli as the Combined Authority's statutory Monitoring Officer.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The financial implications associated with this appointment can be covered from within the existing revenue budget for 2024/25. This statutory role is included in the budget on an ongoing basis.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 Dealt with in the body of this report.

6.0 Equalities Implications

6.1 There are no additional equalities implications within this report.

7.0 Environmental Implications

7.1 There are no additional environmental implications within this report.

8.0 Combined Authority Areas Impacted (Council Areas/Wards/Divisions)

8.1 York and North Yorkshire area.

9.0 Recommendations

9.1 That the Combined Authority formally appoints Rachel Antonelli as the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority's Monitoring Officer (Head of Legal).

10.0 Reasons For Recommendations

10.1 The Combined Authority is required in accordance with Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to appoint an Officer to be responsible for the proper administration of its legal affairs.

11.0 Contact Details

For further information please contact the authors of this Report.

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Background papers - None

Appendices – None