

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Audit & Corporate Governance Committee **DATE:** 10th December 2015

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WARD(S): All

PART I FOR INFORMATION

APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER

1 Purpose of Report

This report seeks to inform the Committee of the appointment of the Council's Monitoring Officer.

2 Recommendation

That the appointment of Gurpreet Anand, Assistant Director, Procurement and Commercial Services, as the Council's Monitoring Officer with effect from 25th November 2015, be noted.

3 Community Strategy Priorities

The Monitoring Officer, along with the Head of Paid Service and the Section 151 Officer combine to form the Council's Statutory Officer functions. These roles are key to ensuring lawfulness, fairness, probity and general good governance that support the council in achieving its aims. It is important that they work effectively together yet maintain appropriate independence and that the roles are undertaken by adequately skilled and experienced staff supported by appropriate resources.

4 Other Implications

(a) Financial

None.

(b) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

The appointment of a Monitoring Officer is a statutory requirement under Section 5, Local Government & Housing Act 1989.

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 Following the restructuring of the Chief Executive's Directorate the Council, at its meeting on 22nd September 2015, appointed Linda Walker as an interim Monitoring Officer pending a permanent appointment to the role.

- 5.2 The Council's Monitoring Officer has a number of functions which are defined within the Council's constitution. These include; ensuring lawfulness and fairness of decision making, supporting the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee, receiving reports, conducting investigations, ensuring access to information, advising whether executive decisions are within the budget and policy framework and maintaining the Constitution.
- 5.3 The Council, at its meeting on 24th November 2015, appointed Gurpreet Anand, the Assistant Director, Procurement and Commercial Services as the Council's Monitoring Officer with effect from 25th November 2015.
- 5.3 Linda Walker will conclude matters that she is currently dealing with and support the new Monitoring Officer in his new role to the end of December 2015.

6 **Background Papers**

None