Report to Council Item

26 January 2021

Report of Chief executive

**Subject** Appointment of (interim) monitoring officer

### **Purpose**

To consider the appointment of an (interim) monitoring officer.

#### Recommendation

To appoint Geoff Wild as the (interim) monitoring officer

## **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority of a healthy organisation

## **Financial implications**

There are no direct financial implications from this report.

Ward/s: All Wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Kendrick - Resources

#### **Contact officers**

Stephen Evans, Chief executive

01603 212001

## **Background documents**

None

## Report

- 1. The monitoring officer is a statutory appointment under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- 2. The main functions of the monitoring officer are:
  - (a) Following consultation (wherever possible) with the Chief Executive (as Head of Paid Service) and the Chief Finance Officer, to report to the council and to the cabinet in any case where s/he is of the opinion that any proposal or decision of the authority has given rise to, or is likely to, or would give rise to any illegality, maladministration or breach of statutory code under Sections 5 and 5A of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989; (LGHA 89).
  - (b) To investigate any matter which s/he has reason to believe may constitute, or where s/he has received an allegation that a matter may constitute, a reportable incident under Sections 5 and 5A of the LGHA 89.
  - (c) To investigate complaints against members in regards to the code of conduct and in accordance with the council's standards provisions.
  - (d) To undertake, with others, investigations in accordance with the council's whistleblowing procedures.
  - (e) Providing urgent dispensations for members' interests.
- Nplaw currently has an agreement with the council to provide a monitoring officer, although the monitoring officer role will from part of the duties of the new head of legal and procurement post which will be in place in April 2021.
- 4. Geoff Wild has been acting as legal advisor to the council since December 2020 and it is proposed that Geoff Wild be appointed as the (interim) monitoring officer to Norwich City Council, until 31 March 2021 which requires a resolution of full council.

# **Integrated impact assessment**



The IIA should assess the impact of the recommendation being made by the report

Detailed guidance to help with the completion of the assessment can be found here. Delete this row after completion

Report author to complete	
Committee:	Council
Committee date:	26 January 2021
Director / Head of service	Stephen Evans
Report subject:	Appointment of (interim) monitoring officer
Date assessed:	7 January 2021

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)				This appointment forms part of the council's agreement with nplaw
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact				
ICT services				
Economic development				
Financial inclusion				
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults				
S17 crime and disorder act 1998				
Human Rights Act 1998				
Health and well being				

		Impact		
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)				
Eliminating discrimination & harassment				
Advancing equality of opportunity				
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation				
Natural and built environment				
Waste minimisation & resource use				
Pollution				
Sustainable procurement				
Energy and climate change				
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management				

commendations from impact assessment
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