

# Norwich City Council

## STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Item

6

### REPORT for meeting to be held on 17 December 2010

#### Provision of Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer for Norwich City Council

##### Purpose

To update the standards committee on how the roles of Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer are now being provided to Norwich City Council by **nplaw**. The report that was approved by Council in September 2010 is attached

##### Recommendations

To note the report and that the appointment of David Johnson as Monitoring Officer and Victoria McNeill and Chris Skinner as Deputy Monitoring Officers for the City Council in place of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services was made on 28 September 2010.

##### Financial Consequences

The cost of the provision of monitoring officer services is included in the fixed fee payable for the legal shared service.

##### Strategic Priority and Outcome/Service Priorities

The report helps to meet the strategic priority "Aiming for excellence – ensuring the Council is efficient in its use of resources, is effective in delivering its plans, is a good employer and communicates effectively with its customers, staff and partners."

##### Contact Officers

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##### Background Documents

None

## **Introduction**

1. From 1 October 2010 the City Council will be entering into a new shared legal service with Norfolk County Council and Great Yarmouth Borough Council. The shared service will be called nplaw (Norfolk Public Law) and will handle all legal work for the three authorities as well as work for other clients including Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority. The shared service will be hosted by the Norfolk County Council and 12 City Council Legal Services employees will TUPE transfer to the County Council.

## **Monitoring Officer**

2. Under the new arrangement, a team within nplaw will advise on constitution and standard related issues for the three stakeholder authorities (including the role of Monitoring Officer).
3. The Monitoring Officer for Norfolk County Council will be Victoria McNeill (Practice Director for nplaw) and for Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Chris Skinner (ex Great Yarmouth Borough Council solicitor). It is proposed that the same arrangement be put in place for the City Council and that David Johnson is appointed as the Monitoring Officer for the City Council.
4. In order to fulfil statutory requirements these officers are deemed to be seconded to the relevant authority for these purposes.