

<b>Meeting</b>	Full Council
<b>Date</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> May 2014
<b>Title</b>	Appointment of Monitoring Officer
<b>Purpose</b>	To appoint a new Monitoring Officer
<b>Author</b>	Chief Executive – Harry Thomas
<b>Portfolio Leader</b>	Customer Care – Councillor Ioan Thomas

1. On the 11<sup>th</sup> March this year, the Cabinet approved a report which recommended restructuring the senior management of the Council. The changes will result in almost £500,000 of annual savings which will contribute to the overall savings target for the period 2015/16 - 2017/18.
2. This package entails deleting the Democracy and Legal Department and redistributing the department's services to other parts of the Council. Part of the savings will be realised by deleting the post of Head of Democracy and Legal Services who also performs the role of Monitoring Officer. The decision is implemented by approving the application to retire early from the current post holder which takes effect from the end of August.
3. The Council now has to nominate another officer to be its Monitoring Officer. There is no legal requirement for the Monitoring Officer to be a lawyer or to have a legal background. It has been my experience however that such a background is useful for the effective execution of the role. The statutory duties of the role are as follows:-
  - (a) To report on any proposal, decision or failure by the authority contrary to the law or which could lead to maladministration; and
  - (b) Oversee the implementation of the Members Code of Conduct.
4. The Council already has a Deputy Monitoring Officer who also performs the role of managing the Legal Services Unit – Iwan Evans. Having discussed the matter with the current Monitoring Officer and the relevant Cabinet Members, I recommend, as the Statutory Head of the Paid Service, that the Council appoints Iwan Evans as its next Monitoring Officer with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> September.
5. I also recommend that Iwan Evans, who already has considerable experience as the Council's Deputy Monitoring Officer, should be supported by a development package consistent with this level of appointment.

6. If this recommendation is accepted, the new Monitoring Officer will be responsible for appointing a Deputy Monitoring Officer from the talented pool of potential applicants from within the authority.

7. **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Council appoints Iwan Evans as its next Monitoring Officer with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014.