

Meeting:	THE COUNCIL
Date:	8 th July 2021
Title	Electoral Registration Officer/Returning Officer
Purpose of the Report	Appoint the Above Officer.
Cabinet Member	Councillor Nia Jeffreys
Officer:	Iwan Evans , Monitoring Officer.

1. Under Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 the Council is required to appoint an Electoral Registration Officer for each constituency, or part of the constituency within the County.
2. Under the same Act the Electoral Registration Officer shall be the Acting Returning Officer for parliamentary elections.
3. Under Section 35 of the same Act the Council is required to appoint one of its officers to act as Returning Officer for local elections (County and Community).
4. The role of the Returning Officer (and that of the Electoral Registration Officer) is entirely separate to the role of a Council officer and the responsibility for discharging the duties of electoral registration and running elections is a personal one on the individual post-holder.
5. As the present Electoral Registration Officer/Returning Officer has retired the post is vacant and the Council is required to appoint a successor from that date
6. Usually (but not always), the Council's Chief Executive is appointed as Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer. It is recommended therefore that this role be given to the Chief Executive, Mr Dafydd Gibbard.
7. The day to day work of maintaining the electoral register is the responsibility of the Monitoring Officer who is already the Deputy Electoral Registration Officer.

9. It is recommended that the Council resolves as follows:

- (a) To appoint the Chief Executive as Electoral Registration Officer for every constituency and part of a constituency within the County in accordance with Section 8(2A) Representation of the People Act 1983.
- (b) To appoint the Chief Executive as Returning Officer for the election of councillors to the Council and the election of community councillors within the county in accordance with Section 35(1A) Representation of the People Act 1983.

STATUTORY OFFICERS COMMENTS:

Monitoring Officer

Report Author

Statutory Finance Officer:

Elections costs and the electoral registration officer / returning officer are funded by a Government grant / Cabinet Office separately from the Council's accounts.

The decision sought does not create a financial commitment for the Council, therefore I have nothing to add from a financial propriety perspective.