Question from Nicolette Boater to the 25.7.16 Resources PDS Panel meeting (Answers provided in italics text below)

At 15.1.15 Council, "The Policy Development and Scrutiny Lead Officer [was] designated as the Statutory Scrutiny Officer under Section 31 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009" without any mention in the associated decision-making report of the role, responsibilities or identity of the post holder. Then, as now, two Policy Development and Scrutiny Officers were in the Council's employ, neither of whom have this job title.

Furthermore in the context of a Council administration with a sizeable majority, able if it so wishes to make decisions without regard to the adequacy of stakeholder support, policy coherence or evidence, and the requirement West of England devolution will bring for oversight and scrutiny across a wider geographic area, this role has increased in importance since I asked similar questions of the 2011-2015 Council administrations (namely at November 2012 Resources PDS, September 2013 Council and September 2014 Council).

Therefore please can you advise

1. Has/will an appointment been/be made to the Statutory Scrutiny Officer position?

Yes, a post has been established and an appointment made to a post of Policy Development & Scrutiny Project Lead Officer within the Council's Resources Directorate.

2. Q2. Has/will the person specification and job description relating to this appointment been/be made publically available?

It is not normal Council policy to make job descriptions/person specifications publically available.