

Bath & North East Somerset Council	
MEETING:	Council
MEETING DATE:	25 March 2021
TITLE:	Interim Monitoring Officer
WARD:	ALL
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report: None	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report seeks Council's approval of the extension of appointment of an Interim Monitoring Officer.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Restructuring Implementation Committee (RIC) is recommending that the Council approves:

- 2.1 The extension of the appointment of Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer of Michael Hewitt on a salary of £80,108 pro rata per annum for a further period from 1 April 2021 to 31 July 2021.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost of the salary for the post of Interim Monitoring Officer will be met from the budget that covered the salary of the Director of Legal & Democratic Services.

4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 4.1 The Council's senior management structure is designed to provide the strategic leadership and oversight to enable the Council the maximum opportunity to deliver on its corporate plan.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 Mr Michael Hewitt was appointed as Interim Monitoring Officer by Council on 12 November 2020 for a period from 1 December 2020 to 31 March 2021. His substantive post is as the Council's Legal Services Manager. He has the necessary skills and experience to undertake the Monitoring Officer role and additional management responsibilities.
- 5.2 The Committee recommends that Mr Michael Hewitt appointment be extended for a further period from 1 April 2021 to 31 July 2021.

- 5.3 Recruitment to the substantive post of Head of Legal & Democratic Services will commence in mid-May after the local elections and a recommendation for appointment by the RIC brought to the July meeting of Council.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has not been undertaken. Section 4 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires all local authorities to appoint a Monitoring Officer.

7 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 7.1 The Monitoring Officer will have delegated responsibility for ensuring the Council rises to the strategic leadership challenge of responding to the Climate Emergency declaration and enables Bath and North East Somerset to achieve the goal of carbon neutrality by 2030. This will include ensuring that the Council leads by example in all its activities, making the radical changes needed, as well as taking a lead role in influencing and working with partners across all sectors locally, regionally and nationally and ensuring wide and deep citizen engagement.

8 EQUALITIES

- 8.1 An impact assessment has not been carried out. The recruitment and selection process for the substantive appointment will be conducted fairly in accordance with the Council's recruitment and selection procedures and taking account of its Equalities Policy.

9 CONSULTATION

- 9.1 Recognised trade unions will be consulted on the detail and implementation of the new senior management structure.

10 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

- 10.1 All issues have been addressed in the body of this report.

11 ADVICE SOUGHT

- 11.1 The Council's Section 151 Officer (Director of Finance) has had the opportunity to input to this report and has cleared it for publication.

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Background papers	N/A
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