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Additional / To Follow Agenda Items

This is a supplement to the original agenda and includes reports that are additional to the original agenda or which were marked 'to follow'.

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority - Policy and Strategy Committee

- **Date:** Friday, 26 April 2024 **Time:** 10.00 am
- Venue: Joint Fire / Police HQ, Sherwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 8PP Joint Fire / Police HQ, Sherwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 8PP

Members are requested to attend the above meeting to be held at the time, place and date mentioned to transact the following business

Clerk to the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority

<u>Agenda</u>

4 Governance Arrangements Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Any councillor who is unable to attend the meeting and wishes to submit apologies should do so via the personal assistant to the Chief Fire Officer at Fire Services Headquarters on 0115 967 0880

If you need any advice on declaring an interest in any item above, please contact the Governance Officer shown on this agenda, if possible before the day of the meeting.

Governance Officer:

Cath Ziane-Pryor

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0115 8764298 catherine.pryor@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

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Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority Policy and Strategy Committee

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Date: 26 April 2024

Purpose of Report:

To advise Members of the updated arrangements for the provision of the Clerk and Monitoring Officer following the termination of the existing provision arrangements with Nottingham City Council.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- The arrangements with regard to the direct employment of the Clerk and Monitoring Officer be noted;
- Members note that arrangements for provision of governance services will be reviewed in due course.

CONTACT OFFICER

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- Media EnquiriesCorporate Communications TeamContact :0115 8388100 corporatecomms@notts-fire.gov.uk

1. BACKGROUND

Since inception of the Authority in 1998 Clerking and Monitoring Officer arrangements along with governance services have all been provided by Nottingham City Council under a buy-back of services arrangement. Irrespective of this provision, the Authority still had to formally appoint the Monitoring Officer which it did with the current incumbent, Malcolm R. Townroe, in July 2005. Mr Townroe has now confirmed his retirement from Nottingham City Council with effect from 28 April 2024 and this report confirms the arrangements that are now proposed to be put in place to ensure continuity of the Clerk and statutorily required Monitoring Officer role.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 Following confirmation of the proposed retirement of Mr Townroe from Nottingham City Council the Chief Fire Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, served notice on Nottingham City Council to terminate the buyback of the Clerk and Monitoring Officer provision. This takes effect from the date of Mr Townroe's retirement. It does not affect the provision of governance services which will be the subject of further review going forwards.
- 2.2 Given that Mr Townroe has already been appointed to act as the Authority's Clerk and Monitoring Officer, it is proposed that he be appointed directly as an employee of the Authority on an annualised hours or part time basis immediately following his retirement from Nottingham City Council. This will ensure continuity of the current Clerk and Monitoring Officer provision and also provide an element of corporate memory around the governance agenda. Given that Mr Townroe is also a qualified solicitor his title with the Authority will be reviewed to reflect this.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of employing the Clerk and Monitoring Officer directly will be contained within the existing financial envelope for the provision of Clerk, Monitoring Officer and governance services.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no human resources implications arising from this report other than the Clerk and Monitoring Officer will now be employed directly by the Authority.

5. EQUALITIES AND ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because this report does not amend existing policy or service provision. There are no specific equality issues arising from this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental or sustainability implications arising from this report.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There is a legal requirement for the Authority to appoint a Monitoring Officer. The proposed direct engagement of Mr Townroe ensures continuity of the existing arrangement.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Failure to have an appointed Monitoring Officer would be a breach of a statutory requirement.

9. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS

There are no collaboration implications arising from this report.

10. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

- 10.1 The arrangements with regard to the direct employment of the Clerk and Monitoring Officer be noted;
- 10.2 Members note that arrangements for provision of Governance Services will be reviewed in due course.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)

None.

Craig Parkin CHIEF FIRE OFFICER This page is intentionally left blank