



Council

Thursday, 2 March 2023

Appointment of Deputy Electoral Registration Officers

Report of the Chief Executive

**Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Strategic and Borough-wide Leadership,
Councillor S J Robinson**

1. Purpose of report

This report seeks Council approval to appoint three Deputy Electoral Registration Officers, with the same duties as the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) to provide resilience and business continuity in this role.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Council approves the appointments of the Council's Monitoring Officer, Electoral Services Manager and Senior Electoral Services Officer to the role of Deputy Electoral Registration Officer, under section 52(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, having the same duties as the Electoral Registration Officer.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

The appointment of deputies whilst offering resilience is also timely due to some of the new requirements of the Elections Act 2022 and the forthcoming polls on Thursday 4 May. Any temporary voter authority certificates that need to be issued in the six days before the election will need to be issued locally with either a wet signature from the Electoral Registration Officer or another form of security measure. Therefore, it is important that there are several authorised officers available for this duty.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1. The Chief Executive holds the position of Electoral Registration Officer as is required under legislation. The Chief Executive is also noted to be the "Proper Officer" under section 270(3) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 4.2. The Council has a duty to assign officers to assist the Electoral Registration Officer in their duties, and further to allocate appropriate resources to enable the required functions to be carried out.
- 4.3. Given the Scheme of Delegation does not mention the appointment of a deputy for this critical position, Council is asked to confirm the appointments as detailed in the recommendation above.

5. Alternative options considered and reasons for rejection

The do-nothing option was considered but due to the above comments regarding resilience and business continuity this option is not considered viable.

6. Risks and Uncertainties

Business continuity is critical in all services and seeking deputy appointments to a key role ensures resilience and continuity.

7. Implications

7.1. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

7.2. Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications. The report supports compliance with legislation.

7.3. Equalities Implications

There are no equalities implications from this report.

7.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

There are no Section 17 implications from this report.

8. Link to Corporate Priorities

Quality of Life	The recommendations in this report do not impact on or contribute to the Council's Quality of Life priority.
Efficient Services	The recommendations in this report do not impact on or contribute to the Council's Efficient Services priority.
Sustainable Growth	The recommendations in this report do not impact on or contribute to the Council's Sustainable Growth priority.
The Environment	The recommendations in this report do not impact on or contribute to the Council's Environment priority.

9. Recommendation

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For more information contact:	Katherine Marriott Chief Executive 0115 914 8291 kmarriott@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers Available for Inspection:	None
List of appendices:	None