

## **Appointment of Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer for District and Parish Council Elections**

### **Council – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013**

|                     |  |
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| Report of           | Chief Officer Legal and Governance                     |
| Status:             | For Decision   |
| Also considered by: | Governance Committee – 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2013 |
| Key Decision:       | Yes  |

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**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. Fleming

**Contact Officer(s)** Ian Bigwood, ext.7242

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**Recommendation to Governance Committee:** that the Governance Committee recommends to Council the appointment of the Chief Executive, Dr. Pav Ramewal, as Electoral Registration Officer for the Sevenoaks District Council and Returning Officer for the election of councillors of the Sevenoaks District and of councillors of parishes within the Sevenoaks District.

**Recommendation to Council:** that the Chief Executive, Dr. Pav Ramewal, be appointed Electoral Registration Officer for the Sevenoaks District Council and Returning Officer for the election of councillors of the Sevenoaks District and of councillors of parishes within the Sevenoaks District.

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**Reason for recommendation:** district councils are required to appoint an officer of the council as electoral registration officer and returning officer for the conduct of district and parish elections.

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### **Introduction and Background**

- 1 Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 requires district councils to appoint an officer of the council as electoral registration officer. Section 35 of the same Act requires district councils to appoint an officer of the council as returning officer for the election of district councillors and for the election of parish councillors.
- 2 Traditionally, Sevenoaks District Council appoints its Chief Executive as Electoral Registration Officer and as Returning Officer for the election of district councillors and of parish councillors.

## **Key Implications**

### Financial

There are no additional financial implications to this appointment.

### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

Sevenoaks District Council is required by the Representation of the People Act to appoint an officer of the Council as Electoral Registration Officer and as Returning Officer for the election of Sevenoaks District councillors and of parish councillors.

### Equality Impacts

There are no equality impacts.

## **Conclusions**

It is recommended that the newly appointed Chief Executive, in keeping with tradition, be appointed the Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer for District and parish elections.

### **Background Papers:**

Representation of the People Act 1983, Sections 8 and 35

**Mrs Christine Nuttall**  
**Chief Officer for Legal and Governance**