

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

Governance Committee – 19th September 2013

Report of Chief Officer Legal and Governance

Status: For Decision

Also considered by: Council – 1st October 2013

Key Decision: Yes

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Fleming

Contact Officer(s) Ian Bigwood, ext.7242

Recommendation to Governance Committee: 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.

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.

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.

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