

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Council
Date: 22 February 2017
Report for: Decision
Report of: Director of Legal and Democratic Services

Report Title

Appointment of Returning Officer at Combined Authority Mayoral elections

Summary

The Combined Authority (Mayoral Elections) Order 2017 formally requires that each constituent Council shall appoint an Officer of the Council to be the Local Returning Officer for the election of a Combined Authority Mayor.

Recommendation(s)

The Council is requested to appoint the Chief Executive as the Returning Officer for the Trafford Council area at Combined Authority Mayoral elections.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Peter Forrester
Extension: 1815

Background Papers: None

Background Information

Relationship to Corporate Priorities	N/A
Financial	N/A
Legal Implications	The Council are required to appoint an officer of the Council as the Local Returning Officer for the GM Combined Authority Mayoral elections.
Equality/Diversity Implications	N/A
Sustainability Implications	N/A
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	N/A
Risk Management Implications	N/A
Health and Safety Implications	N/A

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Under Section 35 (1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, Councils are required to appoint an Officer to be the Returning Officer for local elections.
- 1.2 In the version of the Combined Authority (Mayoral Elections) Order 2017 circulated prior to the draft Order being formally laid before Parliament, the Returning Officer at local elections was automatically the Returning Officer at Combined Authority Mayoral elections.
- 1.3 In the final legislation which became law on 31 January 2017, Section 35 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 has been modified by paragraph 1 (5) of Schedule 2 of the 2017 Order, so as to suggest that a separate Returning Officer appointment should be made for the Combined Authority Mayoral Election.
- 1.4 For avoidance of doubt, it is therefore suggested there is a specific appointment of a Returning Officer for the Trafford Council area at Combined Authority Mayoral elections. It is recommended that this appointment be the Chief Executive which is in line with current arrangements.