

APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL RETURNING OFFICER

Report of the Assistant Director for Legal & Democratic Governance

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 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. The Chief Executive (Caroline Simpson) has previously been appointed for these purposes.
- 2.2 In the draft Combined Authority (Mayoral Elections) Order 2017 circulated prior to the Order being formally laid before Parliament, the Returning Officer at local elections was automatically the Returning Officer at Combined Authority Mayoral elections.
- 2.3 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 provide that a separate Returning Officer appointment should be made for the Combined Authority Mayoral Election. The Council must therefore now make a specific decision with respect to this.

3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Council Meeting is recommended to give approval to the appointment of Caroline Simpson as the Local Returning Officer for Stockport Council for Combined Authority Mayoral elections.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Vicki Bates on 0161 474 3219 or by email on vicki.bates@stockport.gov.uk