

Rother District Council

Report to:	Cabinet
Date:	12 December 2022
Title:	Solicitor to the Council
Report of:	Malcolm Johnston, Chief Executive
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Oliver
Ward(s):	N/A
Purpose of Report:	To confirm the change in designation of the Solicitor to the Council.
Decision Type:	Non-Key
Officer	
Recommendation(s):	Recommendation: It be RESOLVED: That Clare McGough, Head of Legal and Governance Services for Rother and Wealden District Councils be designated as Solicitor to the Council for Rother District Council, with immediate effect.
Reasons for Recommendations:	To ensure that the Solicitor to the Council is formally designated and is therefore able to act on behalf of Rother District Council in all necessary legal proceedings.

Introduction

1. The Council's legal services are provided under a shared service agreement with Wealden District Council which came into being in June 2012. In December 2018, Wealden District Council's Legal Services Manager, Kristina Shaw-Hamilton was designated as the Solicitor to the Council for Rother District Council.

New Designation

2. Following a re-organisation at Wealden District Council Clare McGough has now been appointed to Kristina Shaw-Hamilton's former role as Head of Legal and Governance Services and it is appropriate for the designation to pass to Clare McGough with immediate effect.
3. Constitutionally, the Solicitor to the Council is authorised to institute, defend or participate in any legal proceedings in any case where such action is necessary to give effect to decisions of the Council or in any case where the Solicitor to the Council considers that such action is necessary to protect the Council's interests.
4. All current delegations to the Solicitor to the Council will therefore be undertaken by Clare McGough.

Conclusion

5. It is necessary to have a designated Solicitor to the Council and following a reorganisation at Wealden District Council, the designation will change from Kristina Shaw-Hamilton to Clare McGough with immediate effect.

Other Implications	Applies?	Other Implications	Applies?
Human Rights	No	Equalities and Diversity	No
Crime and Disorder	No	Consultation	No
Environmental	No	Access to Information	No
Risk Management	No	Exempt from publication	No

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Appendices:	None.
Relevant Previous Minutes:	None.
Background Papers:	None.