

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	County Council
Date:	18 February 2010
Title:	Appointment of Scrutiny Officer
Reference:	1344
Report From:	Chief Executive

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1. Executive Summary

1.1. The County Council is required to designate one of its officers to carry out the statutory duties of the Scrutiny Officer pursuant to Section 21ZA of the Local Government Act 2000 (as inserted by Section 31 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009);

1.2. Section 31 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 comes into force on 1 April 2010. It is therefore necessary to designate an officer as the County Council's Scrutiny Officer at this meeting of the County Council so that a Scrutiny Officer has been designated by 1 April 2010.

2. Contextual information

2.1. The statutory duties of the Scrutiny Officer are:

- To promote the role of the County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees;
- To provide support to the County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the members of those Committees;
- To provide support and guidance to:-
 - Members of the County Council;
 - Members of the Executive of the County Council; and
 - Officers of the County Council

in relation to the functions of the County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

2.2. The County Council may not designate any of the following officers as the Scrutiny Officer:

- The Head of Paid Service;
- The Monitoring Officer;
- The County Treasurer.

3. Proposal

- 3.1. The Corporate Scrutiny Manager's current role includes the management of the County Council's Overview and Scrutiny function, and the provision of advice and support to Members of the County Council, the Executive, officers and partner organisations in relation to the delivery of this function;
- 3.2. In the light of the similarities between the role of the Corporate Scrutiny Manager and the statutory duties of the Scrutiny Officer it is proposed that the Corporate Scrutiny Manager be designated by the County Council as the County Council's Scrutiny Officer.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. That the Corporate Scrutiny Manager be designated as the County Council's Scrutiny Officer;
- 4.2. That the Head of Governance be authorised to make any necessary changes to the Constitution to give effect to this decision.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:

The designation of a Scrutiny Officer is a statutory requirement pursuant to section 21ZA of the Local Government Act 2000

Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Local Government Act	2000
Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act	2009

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

N/A

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

N/A

3. Climate Change:

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

N/A

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

N/A