

WMCA Board

Date	25 June 2021
Report title	Confirmation of Statutory Officer Appointments
Accountable Chief Executive	Laura Shoaf, Interim Chief Executive, West Midlands Combined Authority email: Laura.Shoaf@tfwm.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7444
Accountable Employee	Mel Ganderton, Interim Head of HR email: melanie.ganderton@wmca.org.uk
Report has been considered by	Strategic Leadership Team - 2 June 2021 Programme Board - 14 June 2021

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

- (1) Endorse the appointment of Laura Shoaf as Interim Chief Executive and the Authority's Statutory Head of Paid Service.
- (2) Endorse the appointment of Satish Mistry as Interim Director - Law and Governance and the Authority's Statutory Monitoring Officer.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to confirm the interim appointments of the Interim Chief Executive and Interim Director Law and Governance and to formally confirm their statutory roles for the Authority

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the resignation of the both Chief Executive and the Director of Law and Governance, recruitment processes have been undertaken in order to appoint to both roles on an interim basis. Both roles are essential key roles and perform statutory functions for the Authority in line with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The Chief Executive role has the statutory responsibility as Head of Paid Service and the Director of Law and Governance has statutory responsibility for the role of Monitoring Officer for the Authority.
- 2.2 The previous Director Law and Governance left the organisation on 28th May 2021, and following a recruitment exercise, Satish Mistry has been appointed as Interim Director of Law and Governance. This is a temporary interim arrangement provided through an agency to cover the role until a permanent role is recruited. The Director of Law and Governance is formally appointed as the Authority's Statutory Monitoring Officer.
- 2.3 Following the departure of Deborah Cadman, the previous Chief Executive for the CA, under direction of the Employment Committee, a short internal recruitment exercise has been undertaken to appoint an Interim Chief Executive. A sub panel of the Employment Committee, comprising the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and labour Cllr George Duggins, were convened to make the Interim appointment. Following a short expression of interest process, three internal applicants expressed an interest for the role. The interviews were held on 10th June 2021 and the decision by the panel was that Laura Shoaf would be appointed to the role of Interim Chief Executive. Laura, whose substantive role is Managing Director – Transport for West Midlands, commenced her new role on 14th June 2021. WMCA Chief Executive is formally appointed as the Authority's Statutory Head of Paid Service.
- 2.4 Appointment of these 2 individuals as appropriate Statutory Officers will remain in place until permanent recruitment into the 2 roles. The Employment Committee will now progress the permanent recruitment arrangements for both roles.
- 2.5 The WMCA board is asked to endorse both interim appointments.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 These roles are both included within the Authority's Approved Budget. The 3rd Statutory Officer role for the Authority required within the public sector governance triangle being the Authority's S151 Treasurer remains the permanent Finance Director, Linda Horne.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The recommendations of this report are in line with the Authority's Constitution and Pay Policy.

5. Equalities Implications

5.1 Recruitment processes for both appointments comply with Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policies, Recruitment and Selection policies and the Equality Act 2010.

6. Inclusive Growth Implications

6.1 None to note.

7. Geographical Area of Report's Implications

7.1 None to note.

8. Other Implications

8.1 None to note.

9. Schedule of Background Papers

None.