



BRIEFING NOTE - SENIOR OFFICER CHANGES

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the changes at Senior Officer level at WMCA and the timescales for recruitment to roles.

2. Background

- 2.2 Following the resignations of the Chief Executive and the Director of Law and Governance we have appointed 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.
- 2.3 The previous Director Law and Governance, Tim Martin 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.
- 2.4 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 and Laura Shoaf was 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.
- 2.5 With Laura Shoaf acting up into the Chief Executive role (and the Head of Paid Service role), Anne Shaw was appointed to the role of Managing Director – Transport for West Midlands following a short internal expressions of interest exercise. Anne took up her interim role on 12th July 2021.
- 2.6 The permanent recruitment for the roles of Chief Executive and Director Law and Governance, will take place during September. It is planned that the interviews will take place during October, although the exact interview dates are yet to be finalised. Both appointments will be made by the Employee Committee, in line with the Authority's Constitution. The interim arrangements will remain in place until the permanent role holders are appointed and take up each respective role.
- 2.7 Julia Goldsworthy, Director of Strategy has decided to leave the Authority. There are no plans at this stage to replace the role.