

REPORT TO:	GENERAL PURPOSES AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MAYORALTY & HONORARY FREEDOM SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE 4 December 2017
SUBJECT:	APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY RECORDER
LEAD OFFICER:	Jacqueline Harris-Baker Director of Law and Monitoring Officer
CABINET MEMBER:	Simon Hall, Cabinet Member for Finance and Treasury
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON: The appointment of a new Honorary Recorder continues to give recognition to the role of Judges to make Croydon safe and secure and contributes to the building of strong and proud local communities.	
FINANCIAL IMPACT: Any costs arising from the ceremonial aspects of this appointment will be minimal and met from within existing budgets.	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The sub-committee is recommended to agree that:

- 1.1 Council be recommended to appoint Her Honour Judge Alice Robinson to the position of Honorary Recorder of the London Borough of Croydon for the duration of her tenure as Resident Judge at Croydon Crown Court.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following the appointment of Her Honour Judge Alice Robinson to the position of Resident Judge at Croydon Crown Court, the sub-committee is recommended to agree to recommend to Council her appointment to the role of Honorary Recorder at its meeting on 4 December 2017.
- 2.2 The Council has the power to appoint an Honorary Recorder, which is a ceremonial role known as 'an Office of Dignity'.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The appointment of an Honorary Recorder under Section 54 of the Courts Act 1971, read with Section 245 and 246 of the Local Government Act 1972, falls within the discretion of the Council.
- 3.2 The London Borough of Croydon first appointed an Honorary Recorder in 2008. There are no specific tasks associated with the role, though the post holder is

invited to attend Civic Events and is occasionally involved in hosting visitors to the Borough.

- 3.3 At each Crown Court Centre, as in Croydon Crown Court, a particular judge is appointed 'Resident Judge' and leads the team of judges who sit there and provide the link between the judiciary and the work of the Local Authority.
- 3.4 His Honour Judge (HHJ) Warwick McKinnon was appointed to the role of 'Honorary Recorder' in 2008 and has served in this role until his recent retirement on 3 November 2017.
- 3.5 HHJ McKinnon's successor as Resident Judge at Croydon Crown Court is HHJ Alice Robinson. The Sub-Committee is asked to recommend her appointment to the role of 'Honorary Recorder' for the duration of her tenure as Resident Judge at Croydon Crown Court.

4. PROCESS TO BE FOLLOWED

- 4.1 In accordance with para 2.6 of Part 3 of the Constitution, the Sub-Committee is empowered to make recommendations directly to the Council on the selection of Honorary Recorder.
- 4.2 Should the Sub-Committee be minded to recommend HHJ Alice Robinson, the recommendation will be put to Council at its meeting on 4 December 2017 for the appointment to be formally made.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Informal consultation has taken place with the Mayor, the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive. As a matter of courtesy, the Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales, Lady Justice Macur, has also been consulted on the proposed appointment.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 There are not expected to be any financial implications arising from the content of this report. Any costs arising from the ceremonial aspects of this appointment will be minimal and met from within existing budgets.

Approved by Lisa Taylor, Director of Finance, Investment and Risk and Deputy S151 Officer.

CONTACT OFFICER: Stephen Rowan, Head of Democratic Services & Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None.