

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b> <b>4 December 2017</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY RECORDER</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Jacqueline Harris-Baker</b> <b>Director of Law and Monitoring Officer</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	<b>Simon Hall, Cabinet Member for Finance and Treasury</b>
<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON:</b> 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.	
<b>FINANCIAL IMPACT:</b> Any costs arising from the ceremonial aspects of this appointment will be minimal and met from within existing budgets.	

## **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Subject to approval from the Mayoralty and Honorary Freedom Selection Sub-Committee, Council is recommended to agree to:

- 1.1 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 Mayoralty and Honorary Freedom Selection Sub-Committee will consider whether to recommend to Council her appointment to the role of Honorary Recorder at its meeting due to be held prior to the Full Council 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. HHJ McKinnon's successor as Resident Judge at Croydon Crown Court is HHJ Alice Robinson.

## **4 PROCESS**

- 4.1 If the Sub-Committee resolve to recommend appointment of HHJ Robinson to the role of Honorary Recorder, the Constitution requires Full Council to make the decision as to whether to appoint under the Recommendations from Cabinet and Committees item.

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

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** None.