

Hambleton District Council

Report To: Audit, Governance and Standards Committee

Date: 20 July 2021

From: Director of Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)

Subject: **Politically Restricted Posts**

Portfolio Holder: Governance
Councillor Mrs I Sanderson

Wards Affected: All Wards

1.0 Purpose and Background

- 1.1 As part of its functions the Committee is responsible for approving the list of politically restricted posts. This report asks the Committee to review the list because of re-organisation and changes in job titles within the Council.
- 1.2 Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 certain posts within the Council are politically restricted. This means that persons within those posts are prevented from becoming or remaining Members of a Local Authority or indeed standing for election to parliament. Every Local Authority has to maintain a list of politically restricted posts. Certain categories of Officer are required to be on the list.
- 1.3 Those required to be the list on the list are:-
- (a) Head of the Authority's Paid Service;
 - (b) any Statutory Chief Officer;
 - (c) any Non-Statutory Chief Officer;
 - (d) a Deputy Chief Officer (Head of Service);
 - (e) a Monitoring Officer;
 - (f) any Political Assistants;
 - (g) those posts where in the Council's opinion the Officer gives advice on a regular basis to the Council, the Cabinet or any Committee or Member of the Cabinet.
- 1.4 The Council is required to deposit the list with the Proper Officer and to deposit any subsequent lists with the Proper Officer. The Proper Officer is the person designated from time to time by the Council for that purpose (currently the Chief Executive).
- 1.5 It is also deemed to be a condition of the employment of all those in politically restricted posts that their political activities are restricted in accordance with the Act.
- 1.6 Attached as an Annex is the proposed revised list. This takes on board recent changes in staffing. In respect of the category of "Other Officers", the Committee needs to be satisfied that they give advice on a regular basis to the Council, Cabinet, Committees or Members of the Cabinet or they speak on behalf of the Council on a regular basis to journalists or broadcasters.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the list attached to the report be approved.

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Background papers: None
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Local Government and Housing Act 1989

Politically Restricted Posts

Chief Officers:

Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive

Other Officers

Director of Economy and Planning
Director of Environment
Director of Finance and Commercial (S151 Officer)
Director of Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer)
Director of Leisure and Communities
Head of Service – Commercial and Programme Management
Chief Planning Officer
Interim Head of Service – Business and Economy
Corporate Finance Manager
Corporate Facilities Manager
Corporate Communications Manager
Senior Communications and Media Officer
Development Managers
Business and Economy Managers
Communities Manager
Environmental Health Manager
Legal Manager
Taxation and Benefit Manager
Housing and Planning Policy Manager
Housing Services Manager
Waste and Street Scene – Operations Manager
Waste and Street Scene – Technical Support Manager
Customer Services Manager
ICT Manager
Business and Economy Officers
Democratic Services Officer
Democratic Services Assistant