



Council Meeting – 4 February 2008

Report Title: **Appointment of Monitoring Officer and Changes to Committee memberships.**

Forward Plan reference number (if applicable): n/a

Report of: **Chief Executive**

Wards(s) affected:

Report for: Non key decision.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To note the appointment of a Monitoring Officer.
- 1.2 To note changes to the membership of Licensing Sub Committee C.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the appointment of John Suddaby as Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer with effect from 14 January 2008 be noted.

Report Authorised by: **Chief Executive**

Contact Officer: **Ken Pryor, Deputy Head of Local Democracy and Member Services**
Tel: **0208 489 2915**

3. Chief Financial Officer Comments

The appointment will have no direct financial implications.

4. Head of Legal Services Comments

The Council must by law appoint a single officer with overall responsibility for performing the duties imposed by section 5 of the 1989 Local Government and Housing Act.

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

The following papers have been used in the preparation of this report and can be inspected at River Park House, 225 High Road Wood Green, London, N22 8HQ by contacting Ken Pryor on 020 8489 2915.

Background papers

Report to Council 19 March 2007.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no perceived financial implications arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 The Council must by law appoint a single officer with overall responsibility for performing the duties imposed by section 5 of the 1989 Local Government and Housing Act.

8. Background

- 8.1 On 14 January 2008 John Suddaby was appointed as Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer. Prior to that Mr Suddaby had been performing the role of Acting Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer, having been appointed to that role by Council on 19 March 2007 until the permanent recruitment to the post of Head of Legal Services.
- 8.2 The 1989 Local Government and Housing Act states that a duty of the authority is “to designate one of their officers (to be known as “monitoring officer”) as the officer responsible for performing the duties imposed by section 5 of the Act.
- 8.3 Section 5A (10) goes on to state that “ The duties of an authority's monitoring officer under this section shall be performed by him personally or, where he is unable to act owing to absence or illness, personally by such member of his staff as he has for the time being nominated as his deputy for the purposes of this section.”
- 8.4 The constitution identifies the Monitoring Officer as one of three key posts that the Authority must appoint.

9. Licensing Sub – Committee C

- 9.1 The Licensing Committee agreed to appoint Councillor Dodds to the vacancy on Licensing Sub-Committee C, created by Councillor Dobbie’s resignation from that body.