DECISION-MAKER:		COUNCIL				
SUBJECT:		APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER				
DATE OF DECISION:		17 MARCH 2017				
REPORT OF:		CHIEF EXECUTIVE				
CONTACT DETAILS						
AUTHOR:	Name:	Richard Ivory	Tel:	023 8083 2794		
	E-mail:	Richard.ivory@southampton.gov.uk				
Director	Name:	Dawn Baxendale	Tel:	023 8083 4428		
	E-mail:	Dawn.baxendale@southampton.gov.uk				

## STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None

#### **BRIEF SUMMARY**

Following the completion of the senior management restructure undertaken by the Chief Executive under delegated powers it is necessary to confirm the Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer arrangements.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

(i) To note the actions taken by the Chief Executive in December 2016 under delegated powers that Mark Heath be appointed in a personal capacity as the Returning Officer for local elections and the Electoral Registration Officer in the City and the Acting Returning Officer for UK Parliamentary Elections and European Elections from 1st January 2017.

## REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Following the recent senior management restructure undertaken by the Chief Executive under delegated powers the Council is required to have in place appropriate statutory officers.

#### ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. This report follows the senior management restructure proposals previously agreed by Council. Accordingly, no other options have been considered.

# **DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)**

3. Continuity in the position of Returning Officer is considered necessary in the short to medium term This role was held by Mark Heath, formerly Interim Chief Operating Officer (Customer Experience) until 31st December 2016. As no ordinary Council fell in December after consultation with the Leader of the Council the Chief Executive acted under delegated powers (2.1.3 in the Officer Scheme of Delegation) and appointed Mark Heath in a personal capacity to continue as the Acting Returning Officer for UK Parliamentary Elections, Returning Officer for local elections and the Electoral Registration Officer following his redundancy. The terms of the appointment are such that this arrangement can be reviewed at any time should the Council wish to do so.

4.	Operational arrangements for the Elections team remain with the Service Director: Legal and Governance.						
5.	Under the terms of the Constitution this decision is required to be reported to Council for noting.						
RESC	DURCE IMPLICATION	S					
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>							
6.	None						
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS							
Capital/Revenue							
7.	None. All expenditure is within ring fenced budgets.						
Prope	erty/Other						
8.	None						
LEGA	AL IMPLICATIONS						
Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:							
9.	Section 5 Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (as amended), Sections 8 and 35 Representation of the People Act 1983.						
Other Legal Implications:							
10.	None.						
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS							
11.	None.						
KEYI	DECISION?	<del>Yes</del> /No					
WAR	WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: None						

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION						
Appendices						
1.	None.					
Documents In Members' Rooms						
1.	None.					
Equality Impact Assessment						
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.  Yes/N						
Privacy Impact Assessment						
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact ¥			<del>Yes/</del> No			
Assessr	Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.					
Other E	Other Background Documents					
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:						
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)				
1.	None					