

REPORT AUTHOR: CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

SUBJECT: FINAL RESOURCING OPTIONS FOR A NEW MONITORING OFFICER

For further information
on this report contact: Gavin Chambers
Assistant Chief Officer

Background Papers: Item 6 of the FRA Executive meeting on the 26th May and Item 10 of the FRA Executive meeting on the 22nd June. See [HERE](#)

PURPOSE:

To discuss and agree on the preferred option for recruiting a new Monitoring Officer.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Members consider the attached report and agree the preferred option.

1. Summary

1.1 Members will recall discussions at Executive committee in narrowing down the options for recruiting a new Monitoring Officer.

- 1.2 LLG recommend the role and responsibilities of the monitoring officer should be expanded as detailed to provide a fit for purpose resource both for the authority and the service. The reporting line should be to the Chief Fire Officer, with a dotted line to the Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority.
- 1.3 The most feasible alternative seen by LLG in providing an experienced practitioner and a timely solution, is to enter an arrangement with Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Authority.
- 1.4 Dependent on budget, LLG propose starting with a retainer of 1.5 days per week. However, if budget constraints prevent this, a starting position of 1 day a week with the option to purchase additional time as required, with a review after 6 months, would provide a way forward. In this scenario, the reduction in outsourced legal costs would be less, as there would be less opportunity to absorb this work.
- 1.5 This would however ensure that both the Authority and the Service are better equipped to deal with future challenges.

ANDREW HOPKINSON
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER