



<b>Report To:</b>	Council
<b>Date:</b>	5 March 2025
<b>Subject:</b>	Appointment of Local Returning Officer – Combined Authority Mayoral Elections Order 2017
<b>Purpose:</b>	To appoint a Local Returning Officer to be responsible for administering the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority Mayoral Elections in East Lindsey
<b>Key Decision:</b>	N/A
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Councillor Craig Leyland, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Affairs
<b>Report Of:</b>	John Medler, Monitoring Officer
<b>Report Author:</b>	Ann Good, Democratic Services Manager
<b>Ward(s) Affected:</b>	All
<b>Exempt Report:</b>	No

### Summary

In advance of the forthcoming Mayoral Election in May 2025 the Electoral Commission has advised that each Council should formally appoint an officer of the Council to be a Local Returning Officer for each local area within the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority. The recommendations within this report therefore reflect this advice. The appointed Local Returning Officers will be responsible for running the Combined County Authority Mayoral Elections at a local level (at the District Council or Unitary Council area). Local Returning Officers will deliver the election in accordance with any directions given by the Chief Executive of North East Lincolnshire Council appointed as the Combined County Authority Returning Officer (CCARO) on 12 December 2024

### Recommendations

That Rob Barlow, Chief Executive, East Lindsey District Council be appointed Local Returning Officer for the East Lindsey area for the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority Mayoral Elections.

## **Reasons for Recommendations**

The Council is required to appoint a returning officer to be responsible for the organisation and delivery of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority Mayoral Elections in East Lindsey.

## **Other Options Considered**

None.

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 The appointed Local Returning Officer will be responsible for administering the Combined County Authority Mayoral elections at a local level for the District Council area.

### **2. Report**

- 2.1 The Chief Executive is already appointed as Returning Officer for the delivery of local elections and as Deputy Returning Officer for the Lincolnshire County Council Elections scheduled to take place alongside the Mayoral Elections on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025.
- 2.2 The recommendation to appoint the Chief Executive as Local Returning Officer for the Combined County Authority Mayoral Elections will provide consistency.

### **3. Conclusion**

- 3.1. The appointment will ensure the Council's legal obligations are met.

## **Implications**

### **South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership**

None

### **Corporate Priorities**

None

### **Staffing**

None,

### **Workforce Capacity Implications**

None.

## **Constitutional and Legal Implications**

The Combined Authority (Mayoral Elections) Order 2017 contains legal provisions relating to the running of Combined County Authority Mayoral Elections

## **Data Protection**

None

## **Financial**

Costs associated with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority Mayoral Elections are reimbursed.

## **Risk Management**

The appointment is a statutory requirement.

## **Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales**

None.

## **Reputation**

*None.*

## **Contracts**

None.

## **Crime and Disorder**

Proper management of elections will minimise the potential for election fraud.

## **Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding**

The appointment is made based on suitability for the role.

## **Health and Wellbeing**

*None.*

## **Climate Change and Environment Impact Assessment**

Not undertaken.

## **Acronyms**

*None.*

## **Appendices**

None.

## **Background Papers**

Background papers used in the production of this report are listed below: -

### **Document title**

[The Combined Authorities \(Mayoral Elections\) Order 2017](#)

## **Chronological History of this Report**

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

## **Report Approval**

Report author:	Ann Good, ann.good@e-lindsey.gov.uk
Signed off by:	John Medler, John.medler@e-lindsey.gov.uk
Approved for publication:	Councillor Craig Leyland, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Corporate Affairs.