

Report for: COUNCIL

Date of Meeting:	30 September 2021
Subject:	Appointment of Honorary Recorder for Harrow Council
Responsible Officer:	Hugh Peart, Monitoring Officer
Exempt:	No
Wards affected:	All

Summary and Recommendations

This report seeks Council approval to the appointment of an Honorary Recorder for Harrow.

Recommendations:

That Council agrees, pursuant to section 54 of the Courts Act 1971, that Her Honour Judge Rosa Dean be appointed to the Office of Honorary Recorder of Harrow during her tenure as Resident Judge at Harrow Crown Court.

Background

The Lord Chief Justice's Guidelines for the Appointment of Honorary Recorders recommends the appointment of the Resident Judge to be Honorary Recorder of a Borough during their tenure of office, thereby reinforcing the links between a Borough and its criminal Court.

At each Crown Court centre a particular judge appointed "Resident Judge" leads the team of judges who sit there and provides the essential link between the judiciary and the administration.

The Resident Judge is usually a Senior Circuit Judge who is recruited and appointed specifically to that post. Such a judge holds office as a Resident Judge, (and if so appointed), as Honorary Recorder until their retirement from the post.

It is customary for an Honorary Recorder, when sitting in the Crown Court in the Borough where they hold office, to be described as such in the published court lists.

Those Honorary Recorders who are also Senior Circuit Judges are authorised by the Lord Chancellor to wear red robes when sitting in court.

Her Honour Judge Rosa Dean

Her Honour Judge Rosa Dean is a Circuit Judge. HHJ Rosa Dean was called to the Bar in 1993 and practised mainly Criminal Law on the Midlands and South Eastern Circuit.

HHJ Dean was appointed as Circuit Judge in 2011, one of the youngest female judges at the time and started her full-time judicial career at Isleworth Crown Court. After a short stint she moved to Wood Green Crown Court and then to Harrow Crown Court where she was appointed Resident Judge in 2017.

Legal implications

The appointment of an Honorary Recorder is made by the Borough Council concerned and does not require the approval of the Lord Chancellor or the Lord Chief Justice, but the Lord Chief Justice encourages boroughs to first consult the Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales.

The Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales, The Rt Hon Lady Justice Thirlwall DBE has been duly consulted and has confirmed her support, noting that HHJ Dean “is a fine judge and serves the interests of justice and the people of Harrow with great distinction”.

Financial Implications

Any costs associated with appointment will be contained within the Mayoralty budget.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Statutory Officer: Dawn Calvert

Signed on by the Chief Financial Officer

Date: 9 September 2021

Statutory Officer: Hugh Peart

Signed on by the Monitoring Officer

Date: 3 September 2021

Chief Officer: Hugh Peart

Signed by the Corporate Director

Date: 3 September 2021

Mandatory Checks

Ward Councillors notified: NO as it impacts on all Wards

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Hugh Peart, Monitoring Officer
hugh.peart@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: None

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

- | | | |
|----|--------------|-----|
| 1. | Consultation | YES |
| 2. | Priorities | NO |