

**REPORT TO COUNCIL****APPOINTMENT OF HM CORONER FOR SURREY
MR RICHARD TRAVERS****KEY ISSUE/DECISION:**

HM Coroner for Surrey Mr Michael J.C. Burgess OBE has formally given notice of his retirement with effect from 31 March 2011. On 14 December 2010, Council agreed to delegate the selection of a new Coroner for Surrey to take up post on the retirement of Mr Burgess OBE, to an appointment panel nominated by it. That panel now asks Council to agree to the appointment of Mr Richard Travers.

BACKGROUND:

1. Following a thorough and rigorous selection process, including two interviews, the panel unanimously recommend Mr Richard Travers to Council for appointment as HM Coroner for Surrey.
2. Mr Travers is a Barrister with over 26 years of experience, with his main area of practice being in criminal law. Having been active in the Surrey Coroner's Service for over four years, Mr Richard Travers was appointed as Assistant Deputy Coroner for Surrey in February 2009.
3. The panel is confident that Mr Travers has demonstrated all the attributes required to undertake this role effectively.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Council is asked to agree to the appointment of Mr Richard Travers as HM Coroner for Surrey upon the retirement of Mr Burgess OBE.

Lead/Contact:

Kay Hammond
Chairman of the Coroner Selection Committee

Sources/background papers:
