



## **COUNCIL – 17TH NOVEMBER 2015**

**SUBJECT: STANDARDS COMMITTEE – APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER**

**REPORT BY: MONITORING OFFICER**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To appoint an independent member to the Standards Committee and to consider a recommendation for the appointment of a reserve.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 This Report sets out the process undertaken to fill the vacancy that has arisen on the Council's Standards Committee.
- 2.2 The Report recommends that Council accept the recommendations of the Appointment Panel in relation to the filling of the vacancy and makes a second recommendation in relation to a reserve appointment to the Committee.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution, in accordance with statute sets up a Standards Committee with a majority of independent members. This appointment is required to comply with the statutory requirements of the Local Government Act 2000.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 On the 17th May, 2015 Mr. Phillip Morgan, resigned as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee.
- 4.2 A Panel was established to consider all the applications and to make a recommendation to the Council. In accordance with the regulations the Panel comprised an elected member, a community council member and a "lay panel member" who in this case was Ms. D. Holdroyd, the current Chair of the Standards Committee.
- 4.3 The advertisement attracted seven applications from individuals who met the criteria published by the Authority. In addition one application was received after the closing date and accordingly was not considered. Of the seven applications, five applicants were invited for interview, two withdrew and three were interviewed. The interviews took place on 16th October 2015.
- 4.4 The panel considered following interview that two of the candidates could be considered for appointment and after discussion agreed the following:-

- (a) that Mr. Malcolm Stone be recommended for appointment as independent member of the Standards Committee for a period of four years from 18th November 2015
- (b) that the Council agrees to setting up a **reserve list of** independent members and that Mr. David Tolley be invited to remain on that reserve list for a period of six months from 18th November 2015

4.5 While the law provides that the appointment to the Standards Committee is made by the Authority, the regulations put great emphasis on the Panel and it would therefore be inappropriate for the Authority to do other than accept the recommendation of the Panel as to the appointment. The Authority is free to accept or reject the second recommendation.

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None arising from the Report. The process undertaken takes account of equalities implications.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There is existing provision for allowances for independent members and therefore there are no additional financial implications for the Authority.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are none.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

8.1 There has been no formal consultation on the Report as the Report reflects the deliberations of the statutory Panel. The officers and Members listed at the end of the Report have been provided with a copy of the Report for information.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (a) that the said Mr. Malcolm Stone be appointed for a period of four years from 18th November, 2015 as independent member of the Standards Committee;
- (b) that the Council agrees to establishing a reserve list of independent members and that the said Mr. David Tolley be invited to remain on that list for a period of six months from 18th November, 2015.

## **10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 In order to comply with statutory requirements about the establishment of a Standards Committee and to give effect to the recommendations of the Panel set up under National Assembly Regulations.

## **11. STATUTORY POWERS**

11.1 Local Government Act 2000 and regulations made under the Act. This is a Council function.

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Consultation: This report reflects the deliberations of the statutory Panel and therefore there has been no formal consultation on the contents of this report.

For information: Chris Burns Interim Chief Executive  
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