STANDARDS COMMITTEE 3 OCTOBER 2007

PERSON SPECIFICATION INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

1. Purpose Of Report

To review the person specification in respect of Independent Members of the Standards Committee.

2. Background

At its meeting on 24 January in considering a self-assessment checklist, the Committee resolved that it should review the person specification at its next meeting.

The Committee at its meeting on 18 April examined the current job description (Appendix 1) and person specification. The Committee concluded that the person specification was quite vague and open to different interpretations. It was felt that it should be updated to enable potential applicants to demonstrate experience of the attributes required for the position.

As instructed by the Committee, officers have obtained examples of person specifications from other authorities and taken on board the comments and suggestions from members.

The current person specification is at Appendix 2
The suggested person specification is at Appendix 3 drawn up by the Corporate Standards Manager.

It has to be said that recruiting independent members onto this Committee has not been an issue. Indeed, the Council has been extremely fortunate with the very high calibre of those applying for the position and with the members appointed. That is not to say that the Council should not be more specific about the qualities it is looking for in applicants. Making the person specification more specific will also be helpful to potential applicants in understanding exactly what would be expected of them in such a role.

3. Proposal

The Committee's views are therefore sought on the suggested person specification (Appendix 2) with a view to approving a final document to be used in the future recruitment of independent members.

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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

None