

## **Appointment of Independent Persons**

### **Purpose of Report**

1. This report asks the Standards Committee to recommend Full Council ratify the appointment of three Independent Persons.

### **Background**

2. The Council is required under the Localism Act 2011 to appoint at least one Independent Person (IP) whose views must be sought and taken into account before the Council makes a decision on an allegation it has decided to investigate. The views of the IP may also be sought on other allegations, and by a member who is the subject of an allegation.
3. The Council has appointed three Independent Persons, whose terms will come to an end in May 2021.

### **Main Considerations**

4. At its meeting on 7 October 2020 the Committee agreed to authorise the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairman to take all necessary steps to secure the appointment of three Independent Persons at the next meeting of Full Council following the election in May 202, for a four year term.
5. The positions were advertised from 18 February 2021 – 18 March 2021. Following shortlisting of application, nine candidates were selected for interview.
6. The Chairman, along with two other Members, and advised by the Monitoring Officer and a retiring Independent Person, conducted interviews on 30-31 March 2021.
7. Following those interviews the Chairman will recommend the appointment of three candidates at the meeting on 14 April 2021.

### **Safeguarding Implications**

8. There are no safeguarding issues arising from this report.

### **Equalities Impact of the Proposal**

9. There are no equalities impacts arising from this report.

### **Risk assessment**

10. There are no significant risks arising from this report.

### **Financial Implications**

11. The IPs each currently receive remuneration of £2,522 a year for carrying out their duties. This sum is adjusted in accordance with the annual pay award to council staff, as with Member allowance, and was set by Council in 2011/17 in accordance with the recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

### **Legal Implications**

12. The recommendations in this report are consistent with the Council's obligations under the relevant legislation.

#### **Public Health Impact of the Proposals**

13. There are no public health impacts arising from this report.

#### **Environmental Impact of the Proposals**

14. There are no environmental impacts arising from this report.

#### **Recommendation**

15. That Council ratify the appointment of three Independent Persons following the selection process undertaken by the Standards Committee

#### **Ian Gibbons, Director of Legal and Governance**

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