

## **Wiltshire Council**

### **Standards Committee**

**27 July 2021**

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#### **Appointment of Co-opted Members of the Standards Committee**

##### **Purpose of Report**

1. To ask the Standards Committee to approve the appointment of four co-opted non-voting members of the Standards Committee.

##### **Background**

2. The terms of reference for the Committee as detailed at **Appendix A** provide for the appointment of up to 8 non-voting co-opted members, 50% of whom must be serving town, parish or city councillors from within the Council's area who are not councillors or officers of the Council.
3. On recommendation of the Committee at its meeting on 23 February 2021 Full Council resolved that four non-voting co-opted members should be appointed for the remainder of the council term and delegated the appointment of those members to the Standards Committee with the selection process delegated to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Standards Committee.

##### **Main Considerations**

4. An advert for the four positions was published in April 2021 and publicised in particular with town and parish councils. The advert ran until the end of June 2021.
5. Over 25 applications were received for the four positions. Following shortlisting in discussion with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, 15 candidates were selected for interview.
6. Interviews took place on 12 July, 14 July and 15 July 2021. The interview panel comprised the Chairman, Cllr Paul Oatway QPM, the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Allison Bucknell, and the Chairman of the Standards Assessment Sub-Committee, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson.
7. Following consideration of all the applicants, the interview panel resolved to recommend the Committee appoint the following persons to the vacant positions:

Gordon Ball  
Kathy Barnes  
Joanne Cetti  
Julie Phillips

### **Safeguarding Implications**

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

### **Equalities Implications**

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

### **Risk Assessment**

10. There are no significant risks arising from this report

### **Public Health Implications**

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

### **Environmental Implications**

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

### **Workforce Implications**

13. There are no workforce implications arising from this report.

### **Financial Implications**

14. The allowance for a non-voting co-opted member on the Standards Committee is currently £1,262 per year. Therefore, the total annual cost for the four co-opted members has been £5,048.

15. This allowance has been confirmed by the Council after considering recommendations of the Independent Review Panel at its meeting on 20 July 2021.

### **Legal Implications**

16. The Council has a discretion under the Localism Act 2011 to establish a standards committee to discharge its duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct of elected and co-opted members and a further discretion to include non-voting co-opted members on any committee so established.

### **Recommendation**

17. The Standards Committee is therefore asked to appoint:

- Gordon Ball
- Kathy Barnes
- Joanne Cetti
- Julie Phillips

As co-opted non-voting members of the Standards Committee for the remainder of the council term.

**Perry Holmes**

**Director, Legal and Governance (and Monitoring Officer)**

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