

## Area Board Briefing Note

### School Appeal Panel Member Recruitment

<b>Service:</b>	<b>Democratic Services</b>
<b>Date prepared:</b>	<b>22 January 2025</b>
<b>Further enquiries to:</b>	<b>Tara Hunt, Senior Democratic Services Officer</b>
<b>Direct contact:</b>	<b><a href="mailto:tara.hunt@wiltshire.gov.uk">tara.hunt@wiltshire.gov.uk</a></b>

Do you have some free time? Are you looking to give back to society? Are you passionate about education?

If so, then Wiltshire Council is looking for volunteers to sit on their Independent School Appeal Panels. The Panels hear and determine appeals submitted by parents or guardians as a result of being refused a place for their children at their preferred school.

The Panels not only play an important role in considering the needs of both schools and children but are a rewarding way of giving back to the community and developing new skills.

Members sitting on the Panel must be independent of Wiltshire Council for the duration of their service. We welcome people from all backgrounds and value a range of perspectives. We are ideally looking for thoughtful, considerate people that are good listeners and have a keen regard for due process.

Compulsory training will be provided for the role, with refresher courses when necessary. A Clerk is available during and in the run up to appeals to give legal and procedural advice. The role is a voluntary position, so is unpaid.

There is no minimum time commitment, but the role can vary from a few hours a month to a couple of days a week occasionally, particularly during the summer months before the start of the new academic year each September.

Being a volunteer Panel Member can be a good way of giving back to society, taking part in important decisions that affect the welfare of children and parents, as well as keeping busy and maintaining social interaction if you are not currently working.

We would urge people who are interested to get in touch and find out more. Contact the council's Democratic Services Appeals Team, either by email at

[educationappealsadmin@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:educationappealsadmin@wiltshire.gov.uk) or by calling 01225 718352.

Follow this link to see the job advertisement [Independent School Appeal Panel Members - Wiltshire Career Site Careers](#)

Please note that the **closing date** for applications is **Sunday 16 February 2025**.