

**CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**22 DECEMBER 2010**

**APPOINTMENTS TO THE INDEPENDENT PANEL ON MEMBERS' REMUNERATION**

**RICHARD LONG: DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1 To seek Committee confirmation of appointments to the Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration.

**BACKGROUND**

- 2 The Council is required to have an Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration, but how that Panel is constituted and appointed is the decision of the Council. The Middlesbrough Panel currently comprises six members, each of whom serve a term of three years. Members may serve more than one term of office. Due to a recent resignation (see paragraph 4 below) only 5 of the 6 members are currently in post.
- 3 The current Chair of the Panel is Dr Jim Whiston. He has served on the Panel since 2002, and has chaired the Panel since 2004.
- 4 Details of the current membership are as follows:

Member	Appointed or re-appointed	Term of office expires
Dr Jim Whiston (Chair)	Sept 2009	Sept 2012
June Goodchild	Sept 2009	Sept 2012
Brian Footitt	Dec 2007	Dec 2010
Paul Hopson	Dec 2007	Dec 2010
Alexander Porter	April 2008	April 2011

John Hargan, who was re-appointed in September 2009 to serve a further term of three years, has since had to resign due to other commitments.

- 5 The two members whose terms of office are now about to expire are Brian Footitt and Paul Hopson. Both have expressed an interest to serve a further term of office.
- 6 It is too late to recruit to the seat vacated by John Hargan for this year, as the Panel is already considering the review of allowances for 2011-2012. In view of the fact that the Panel only meets during December to February to conduct an annual review of allowances, it is recommended that recruitment is undertaken in September 2011 in time for next year's review of allowances.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7 In the past the Council has had difficulty in recruiting Panel members. The current Panel members understand the legislation, and have conducted themselves properly and fairly. It is therefore recommended that Committee:
  - (i) confirms the re-appointment of Brian Footitt and Paul Hopson for a further term of office of three years, and
  - (ii) agrees to recruiting to the vacant post immediately prior to the 2011/2012 review of allowances.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

### Author

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