

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

7 SEPTEMBER 2010

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS – APPOINTMENT PROCESS

RICHARD G LONG,

DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To report on the process for the appointment/reappointment of Independent Members.

BACKGROUND

- 2 The terms of office of the Chair and Vice-Chair are due to terminate on 21 October 2010. Arrangements are in hand to advertise the posts in the next few weeks. In line with the established recruitment processes the vacancies will be advertised in the local press and on the Council's website. Applications received will be shortlisted and candidates interviewed by the Monitoring Officer and Members' Office Manager.
- 3 The candidate recommended for appointment as Independent Chair of the Standards Committee will then need to be endorsed by a majority of councillors at the meeting of the Council scheduled for 27 October 2010. However, as the termination date for the current appointment falls before that meeting, the Council in September will be asked to agree to extend the current term of office until the new appointment can be endorsed.
- 4 The length of each term of office and the process for appointments is for each council to determine. The term of office of current members is for three years. In line with the process adopted by the majority of other local authorities and as the council will be entering into a new administration in May 2011, it is suggested that new members be appointed for a four year term.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5 That the Committee recommends to Council that

(a) the term of office of the two current members is extended until 27 October 2010 or until the Chair's appointment is endorsed by the Council;

(b) that the term of office for the new appointments is extended from a three year to a four year term.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are no background papers.

AUTHOR

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