

COUNCIL

25 NOVEMBER 2014

JOINT REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND MANAGEMENT AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT MANAGER

A.5 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSON AND INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL UPDATE

(Report prepared by Lisa Hastings and Karen Neath)

PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To approve the recommendations from the Interview Selection Panel to appoint Mr John Wolton, Mrs Clarissa Gosling and Rev Dr William Lock as the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel.

In addition, to appoint Clarissa Gosling as the Council's second Independent Person and extend the appointment of John Wolton for a further term.

All of the recommended appointments to be for the period expiring at the Annual Council meeting in 2019.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Independent Persons

The Localism Act 2011 requires each local authority to appoint an Independent Person to work with the Council's Monitoring Officer within the Standards Framework. At the Council meeting in September 2014, it was resolved that John Wolton appointment as the current Independent Person would be extended to May 2015, whilst the repeated recruitment exercise was undertaken.

Independent Remuneration Panel

Given the difficulty experienced in attracting independent people to participate in both the standards arrangements and the recommending of members' allowances, the Council at its meeting in May 2014, resolved that three individuals be appointed to undertake the dual role of Independent Persons and the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Members' Interview Selection Panel

On the 18th November 2014, a Panel consisting of Councillors V. Guglielmi, Johnson, Hawkins and Nicholls in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and the Management and Members' Support Manager interviewed 5 candidates for the dual role. As a result of the interviews the Panel made recommendations to Council on the appointments, these are set out below.

Members will note that it is being recommended that Rev Dr William Lock is not included within the appointment of the Independent Persons at this stage, this was due to the lack of experience in this area however, it was considered that with training being undertaken by the Monitoring Officer, appointment to this role could be considered at a later date after

the Independent Remuneration Panel work has been undertaken. The Council will be meeting the statutory requirement to have at least 1 Independent Person until such time as the third appointment is made.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that:-

- (a) The appointment of Clarissa Gosling, John Wolton and Rev Dr William Lock for the Independent Remuneration Panel be agreed;**
- (b) The appointment of Clarissa Gosling as the second Independent Person be agreed;**
- (c) The appointment of John Wolton, is extended for a further term; and**
- (d) All the appointments are for the period expiring as at the date of the Annual Council in 2019.**