

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

30 APRIL 2024

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (GOVERNANCE) & MONITORING OFFICER

A.4 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND INDEPENDENT PERSONS' RECRUITMENT

(Report prepared by Ian Ford)

PART 1 – KEY INFORMATION

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To enable Council to consider the recommendations submitted to it by the Standards Committee in relation to the Independent Remuneration Panel's and Independent Persons' term of office, exploring alternative options and future recruitment.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting held on 20 March 2024 (Minute 13 refers), the Standards Committee considered a report of the Assistant Director (Governance) & Monitoring Officer in relation to the Independent Remuneration Panel and Independent Persons' term of office, exploring alternative options and future recruitment, with a view to making relevant recommendations to Full Council.

At that meeting it was:

“RESOLVED that the Standards Committee -

(a) *notes the contents of this report (A.1);*

(b) *recommends to Full Council that:*

(i) *the previous local arrangements for joint appointments to both roles, being the Independent Remuneration Panel and Independent Persons ceases;*

(ii) *future arrangements continue to be explored for a joint Independent Remuneration Panel with other Councils, and the delegation for recruitment be extended to the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer for recommendations to be made to a future meeting of Full Council;*

(iii) *for the purposes of (b)(ii) the term of office of future Independent Remuneration Panel members be for a period of up to 7 years, being staggered if appropriate, to cover the Review of the Members' Allowances Scheme required for 2026/27 and into the next term of office for District Councillors; and*

(iv) *the term of office for those Independent Persons who express an interest in doing so, be extended for a further year without an application process, in order to allow a separate recruitment exercise to be undertaken for the sole role of Independent Person.”*

A copy of the published Assistant Director (Governance) & Monitoring Officer's report to the Standards Committee meeting held on 20 March 2024 is attached as an appendix to this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approves that –

- (a) the previous local arrangements for joint appointments to both roles, being the Independent Remuneration Panel and Independent Persons ceases;**
- (b) future arrangements continue to be explored for a joint Independent Remuneration Panel with other Councils, and the delegation for recruitment be extended to the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer for recommendations to be made to a future meeting of Full Council;**
- (c) for the purposes of (b) above the term of office of future Independent Remuneration Panel members be for a period of up to 7 years, being staggered if appropriate, to cover the Review of the Members' Allowances Scheme required for 2026/27 and into the next term of office for District Councillors; and**
- (d) the term of office for those Independent Persons who express an interest in doing so, be extended for a further year without an application process, in order to allow a separate recruitment exercise to be undertaken for the sole role of Independent Person.**

BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR THE DECISION

Published Minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 20 March 2024

APPENDICES

Published Report (A.1) of the Assistant Director (Governance) & Monitoring Officer for the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 20 March 2024.