

7 April 2025

Independent Members to Standards Committee – Re-appointment

Ward(s): All

Purpose: To re-appoint existing Independent Persons

1. Aim

- 1.1 To request Council to agree the re-appointment of Independent Persons to the Standards Committee.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The term of office for Independent Persons to Standards Committee, Carl Magness and Deborah Mardner, expired in February 2025. Council is requested to reappoint Deborah Mardner and Carl Magness, for a period of 4 years.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the following individuals are reappointed as an Independent Persons to the Council's Standards Committee for a period of 4 years:
- Carl Magness
 - Deborah Mardner

4. Report detail – know

- 4.1 Carl Magness and Deborah Mardner were appointed as Independent Members to the Standards Committee on 25 February 2021.
- 4.2 The Localism Act 2011 was enacted on 15th November 2011 and amongst its provisions was the repeal of the existing standards regime as set out in the Local Government Act 2000. This included amongst other changes, the abolition of the Standards Board for England and the existing arrangements for local investigation and determination of complaints and the requirement for independent members on Standards Committees.
- 4.3 The Localism Act 2011 requires the authority to have in place arrangements under which allegations of a breach of the Code can be investigated and decisions made in respect of such allegations. The arrangements require the authority to appoint at least one independent person, whose views are to be sought and taken into account by the authority before it makes its decision on an

allegation that it has decided to investigate. The views of the independent person may be sought by a member if that member's behaviour is the subject of an allegation

5. Financial information

- 5.1 Independent Members on the Standards Committee are entitled to an annual allowance of £750.00, which will be met from existing budgets.

6. Reducing Inequalities

- 6.1 Having Independent Members on the Standards Committee provides a level of assurance that equality matters are being adequately considered.

Background papers

None.

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Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Cox', is written over a faint, dotted grid background.

Anthony Cox
Director of Governance
Date: 25 March 2025