

Report of the Head of Democratic Services

Council – 3 March 2015

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Purpose:	To consider the recommendation of the Standards Committee Vacancy Panel and to appoint two Independent Members to the Standards Committee.
Policy Framework:	None.
Reason for Decision:	To comply with the Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001 as amended.
Consultation:	Finance and Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) Adrian Novis and Clive Walton be thanked for serving the Standards Committee for a period of 10 years; 2) Council notes the recommendation of the Standards Committee Vacancy Panel of 12 January 2015; 3) Gareth Evans and Margaret Williams be appointed as Independent Members of the Standards Committee as of 1 April 2014; 4) Their 6 year term of office end on 31 March 2021.
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Legal Officer:	Tracey Meredith
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Adrian Novis, Chair of the Standards Committee and Clive Walton have both been members of the Standards Committee for a period of 10 years. Both commenced their duties on 22 February 2005 and ended their duties on 21 February 2015 following the maximum period of 10 years.

- 1.2 The Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001 as amended, provides that “where a vacancy arises for a post as an Independent member of a Standards Committee, the relevant authority concerned shall publish an advertisement in not less than two newspapers (which are not published by that relevant authority) circulating in its area.
- 1.3 The Authority placed adverts in the Western Mail on 27 November 2014 and the South Wales Evening Post on 28 November 2014. The closing date for applications was Monday, 15 December 2014.

2. Standards Committee Vacancy Panel

- 2.1 Twenty Five applications were received. The Standards Committee Vacancy Panel of 23 December 2014 recommended 6 of the applicants for interview.
- 2.2 The Standards Committee Vacancy Panel of 12 January 2015 interviewed 5 applicants, as one was unable to attend. The Panel recommend that Gareth Evans and Margaret Williams be appointed by Council as Independent Members of the Standards Committee.

3. Equality and Engagement Implications

- 3.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening process took place prior to the consultation period. The outcomes indicated that it was low priority and a full report was not required.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The payment of Independent Members on the Standards Committee is set by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and the payment is within existing budget.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications other than those already mentioned in the report.

Background Papers: None.

Appendices: None.