

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE
16 JANUARY 2015

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Committee of proposals to appoint members to fill vacancies that have arisen on the Council's Standards Committee.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority

- 2.1 There are no direct links to the Corporate Improvement Plan and Corporate Priorities however; the role of the Standards Committee encompasses all aspects of the operation of the Authority.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Standards Committee of this Council has a current membership of six members comprised as follows: Two County Borough Councillors, one Town and Community Council Member and three Independent Members.

4. Current situation / proposal

- 4.1 Two vacancies have arisen on the Committee, one vacancy for an Independent Member and one vacancy for a Town and Community Council Member.

- 4.2 In January 2013 a Standards Committee Special Appointments Panel was appointed to consider applications received from three applicants who expressed an interest in serving as a Town and Community Member on the Committee in response to a general advert by the Council. At this time, the Panel failed to agree an appointment. There is now a risk that not appointing members to the Standards Committee will result in a reduced membership which may increase the likelihood of the Committee being inquorate.

- 4.4 At a meeting of Council on 30th April 2014, the Monitoring Officer was delegated authority to make arrangements for the recruitment and selection of a Town and Community Councillor Member and an Independent Member to the Committee.

4.5 Town and Community Council Member

For the vacancy of the Town and Community Council representative, it is proposed that the Monitoring Officer writes to all Town/Community Clerks inviting expressions of interest from their membership. Following the closing date, the Monitoring will then write to interested Councillors inviting them for interview by a Special Panel appointed by the Standards Committee. Following interviews, the Panel will make recommendations on appointment to Council, including the duration of any

appointment. In the event of a large number of applicants, the Monitoring Officer will call a meeting of the Standards Committee for a shortlisting process.

4.6 Independent Member

It is proposed that the Monitoring Officer go through the usual process of advertisement and that the Special Panel will meet to consider applications and conduct interviews. Following interviews, the Panel will make a recommendation on the appointment to Council.

5. **Effect upon Policy Framework& Procedure Rules**

5.1 There is no impact on the policy framework and procedure rules.

6. **Equality Impact Assessment**

6.1 Any shortlisting and interviewing of potential members of the Standards Committee will be undertaken in accordance with equality policies. There are no other equality implications.

7. **Financial Implications**

7.1 The costs associated will be contained within existing resources.

8. **Recommendation**

8.1 The Committee is recommended to note the report.

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Background Documents

None