

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

7 OCTOBER 2015

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Members will be aware that a number of vacancies have arisen on the Standards Committee. It is therefore necessary for appointments to be made to fill these vacancies.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The Standards Committee functions directly support the Corporate Priorities.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 provide for the membership of Standards Committees. The Standards Committee of this Council has a current membership of five members comprised as follows: Two County Borough Councillors, one Town and Community Council Member and two Independent Members.

- 3.2 Vacancies have arisen on the Committee, three vacancies for Independent Members and one vacancy for a Town and Community Council Member. The Council has previously provided delegated authority to the Monitoring Officer to oversee a recruitment process and to report to Council on the outcome for its decision on appointments.

- 3.3 The Monitoring Officer contacted all Town & Community Councils within the administrative area of the County Borough and sought expressions of interest. For the vacancy of the Independent Member, a general advert was placed on the Council's Website and in a local newspaper.

- 3.4 The following criteria were adopted for the appointments:

- Understanding of the Model Code of Conduct.
- Understanding / experience of undertaking investigative hearings.
- Understanding of Local Government and the role of Members.
- Acceptance of the values required within public office.

4. Current situation / proposal

- 4.1 Following interviews by the Standards Committee of candidates, it was recommended that the following be appointed to the vacancies:

- Mr Clifford Jones, Independent Member with effect from October 2015;

- Mrs Judith Kiely, Independent Member with effect from October 2015;
- Mr Jeff Baker, Independent Member with effect from February 2016;
- Cllr Alana Davies, Town and Community Councillor Member with effect from October 2015.

4.2 Under the 2001 Regulations, the term of office of a Member of a Standards Committee who is an Independent Member of that Committee shall be not less than four years nor more than six years.

4.3 For a Community Committee Member, the term of office shall be no more than four years; or the period until the ordinary elections for the Community Council of which the Community Committee Member is a Member next following the appointment of that person as a Community Committee Member of that Committee, whichever is the shorter period.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

5.1 There is no effect upon the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules; however the Standards Committee contributes to the maintenance of probity in the Authority.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 None.

8. Recommendation

8.1 It is recommended that Council note the appointments to the Standards Committee as set out in paragraph 4.1 of the report.

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Background documents

None