

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

8 JUNE 2016

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

APPOINTMENTS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Members will be aware that a vacancy for an Independent Member has arisen on the Standards Committee. It is therefore necessary for an appointment to be made to fill this vacancy.
- 1.2 To note the appointment of Mr Clifford Jones as Chairperson for the Committee.

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 six members comprised as follows:

- Cllr R Jenkins (County Borough Member)
- Cllr D Lewis (County Borough Member)
- Cllr J Hancock (Town and Community Council)
- Cllr A Davies (Town and Community Council)
- Mr J Baker (Independent Member)
- Mrs J Keily (Independent Member)
- Mr C Jones (Independent Member)

- 3.2 A vacancy for an Independent Member has arisen on the Committee. 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 the appointment.
- 3.3 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 was adopted for the appointment:

- 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

Independent Member Vacancy

- 4.1 Following interviews by the Standards Committee of candidates, it was recommended that Mr Philip Clarke be appointed to the vacancy.

Appointment of Chair

- 4.2 Under the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 the members of a Standards Committee shall elect a Chairperson from amongst the Independent Members of the Committee.
- 4.3 At a meeting of the Standards Committee on 24 March 2016, the Committee approved the appointment of Mr Clifford Jones as Chairperson of the Committee.

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 Any costs associated with this report will be met from existing budgets.

8. Recommendation

It is recommended that Council:

- 8.1 Appoint Mr Philip Clarke as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee with immediate effect until a term to be determined;
- 8.2 Note the appointment of Mr Clifford Jones as Chairperson of the Standards Committee with immediate effect until a term to be determined.

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Background documents
None