

Report To: FULL COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: October 2017

Lead Member / Officer: Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer

Report Author: Lisa Jones, Deputy Monitoring Officer

Title: **Standards Committee Recruitment Advisory Panel**

1. What is the report about?

There are two vacancies which need to be recruited to in respect of the Councils' Standards Committee. One for an independent (lay) member and one in respect of a 'community' member. A recruitment process is underway and the Council needs to now make the nominations to the Recruitment Advisory Panel.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

A decision is required from the Full Council to agree 3 members to sit on the Councils' Standards Committee Advisory Panel for the full term; therefore in the event of any further vacancies the Council has its Advisory Panel set up.

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 That Full Council nominates 3 of its Members to the Standards Committee Advisory Panel until the expiry of this Council's term.

3.3 That the Council confirms there is no requirement for a Well being Assessment.

4. Report details

Standard Committee Regulations set out who can be a Member of the Standards Committee, together with a requirement, that the majority of those Committee Members are not elected members, but 'lay members'. There is also a requirement for a town, city or community council Member to also sit, who is not also a County Councillor (a twin hatted member).

The Standards Committee regulations set out a process by which the Lay Members are recruited to sit on the Committee, to include a public advertisement. This advert is being posted over the coming weeks. Expressions of interest for the Town, City or Community Council member are being sought via Clerks.

The Advisory Panel is scheduled to interview applicants for the two vacancies in mid November 2017. The Panel shall then report back to Full Council with their recommendations and Full Council shall consider those recommendations, then make the final decision.

The first step in the process, is therefore for Full Council to nominate 3 of its Members to carry out the interview and recommendation process. Vacancies for lay or

community members are infrequent and arise, usually only every few years, therefore this is not necessarily a regular commitment.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

A fully functioning and legally compliant Standards Committee is an essential part of the Council's ethical framework and oversees Members compliance with their Code of Conduct; this in turn fosters trust in those who have been elected and in public sector decision making and behaviour.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

There is the cost of a public advertisement in a newspaper circulating in the area but this is required by law. All other costs are contained within the Committee budget.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

Officers do not consider that a Well Being Assessment is required for this decision.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

Standards Committee is aware of this forthcoming recruitment process and town, city and community clerks have been made aware. Town, City and Community Councils will be consulted before the final decision on the community member for the Standards Committee, as this is a requirement of the Regulations and Full Council will be made aware of any feedback.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

All costs will be contained within existing budgets.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

The Standards Committee could risk not being quorate as the majority of members present must be lay members and it is also a requirement for the Committee to have a Town, City or Community Council Member.

11. Power to make the Decision

Local Government Act 2000
(Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations made thereunder)