

Report to	Council
Date of meeting	18 th May 2021
Lead Member / Officer	Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer
Report author	Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer
Title	Appointment of lay members to Standards Committee

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1. The report is about the continued appointment of two lay (independent) Members.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1. The appointment of independent lay members to the Standards Committee require the approval of the Full Council.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1. That Anne Mellor be re-appointed as an independent lay member of the Standards Committee for a second term to expire on 18th May 2025.
- 3.2. That Julia Hughes be re-appointed as an independent lay member of the Standards Committee for a second term to expire on 18th May 2025

4. Report details

- 4.1 The Standards Committee Regulations 2001, as amended, (the Regulations) govern the composition and proceedings of Standards Committee. The Standards Committee is not required to be politically balanced. A Standards Committee must have a membership of between five and nine members to include independent lay members, County Councillors and City, Town and Community Council

representation. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee must always be independent lay members and the meeting is only quorate if the majority of those present are independent lay members.

4.2 The Standards Committee of this Council has a membership of seven members comprised as follows, two County Councillors, one Community Council member and four independent lay members.

4.3 An independent lay member of the Standards Committee may, under the regulations, only serve two terms of office, this would therefore be the proposed appointees' final term, if re-appointed.

4.4 The lay members put forward for re-appointment, Anne Mellor, and Julia Hughes, were both recruited via a public advert and selected from amongst a number of applicants by the Council's Appointments Panel following an interview process.

4.5 Both of the independent lay members put forward for re-appointment have been diligent and conscientious members of the committee since their appointment in 2015 and are now experienced in the work of the Committee. It is for this reason that it is proposed that they be appointed for a second term.

5 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

5.1 A fully functioning and representative Standards Committee which upholds the high standards expected of Members helps underpin the Council's exercise of its democratic functions.

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

6.1 Independent members are entitled under the law to a daily fee and to have travel expenses reimbursed as set out in the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales' report each year.

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

7.1 A well-being impact assessment is not required.

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

8.1 This report has not been subject to consideration by Scrutiny. Both independent members concerned have indicated that they would be prepared to serve a second term should the Council re-appoint them.

9 Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 The costs associated with the decision are minor and will be contained within existing resources.

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

10.1 The Council Constitution stipulates that there are to be four independent lay members. The risk of not appointing members to the Standards Committee is that a reduced membership may increase the likelihood of the Committee being inquorate.

11 Power to make the decision

11.1 Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 as amended.