

Report to	Council
Date of meeting	11 th October 2022
Lead Member / Officer	Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer
Report author	Lisa Jones, Deputy Monitoring Officer
Title	Appointment of Lay Member to the Standards Committee

1. What is the report about?

To appoint for one term of office, a Lay Member to the Councils' Standards Committee.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The governing regulations regarding the composition of the Council's Standards Committee requires a committee of between five and nine members comprising persons who are independent of the Council, County Councillors and Town and Community Council Councillors. The majority of members on the Standards Committee must be Lay Members and the Council is seeking one lay member due to the retirement of a previous lay member.

3. What are the Recommendations?

The Councils' Standards Committee Appointments Panel recommend to the full Council that Samuel Jones be appointed as Lay Member.

4. Report details

The Council nominated a Standards Committee Special Appointments Panel consisting of: County Councillors Peter Scott, Bobby Feeley, Arwel Roberts; Community Councillor Gordon Hughes; and Lay Member Noela Jones to interview prospective lay members for the one vacant position on the Council's Standards Committee.

The position is required to be advertised openly in two newspapers circulating in the Local Authority area and the interview took place on the 28th September 2022 with references sought in advance, which the panel were sighted upon on the day. Following an impressive interview, the Panel unanimously agreed that the role be offered to Samuel Jones, subject to full council approval.

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

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?

There are no implications for other services as a result of this report. There were some direct advertising costs in recruiting. Lay members are entitled to be paid an allowance in accordance with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales mandatory levels. The rates are a daily rate and are available on their website. Costs will be maintained within the current budget.

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

Not required.

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

The Chair of Standards Committee was also in attendance as an observer and full Council were consulted in respect of the establishment of the Appointments Panel itself. No other consultations were necessary and the position was advertised to the public via statutory newspaper adverts and also on the Council website.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

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

The Council will be in breach of the governing Standards Committee legislation and will not have in place a committee to deal with any matters referred to it by the Public Services Ombudsman.

11. Power to make the decision.

The Local Government Act 2000; the Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001 and the Standards Committee (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006.