

<b>Report to</b>	Standards Committee
<b>Date of meeting</b>	13 September 2024
<b>Lead Member / Officer</b>	Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer
<b>Report author</b>	Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer
<b>Title</b>	Terms of Office of Independent Members.

## **1. What is the report about?**

1.1. This report is about the terms of office of the Independent Members of the Committee and the arrangements that will need to be made to recruit new Independent Members.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

2.1. The terms of office of two Independent Members will come to an end in May 2025. Arrangements will need to be made to begin the recruitment process for new Independent Members.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

3.1. That the Committee notes the content of this report and confirms the arrangements for the recruitment of new Independent Members.

## **4. Report details**

4.1. The Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001, as amended, provide for the composition of Standards Committees and the terms of office of independent members.

- 4.2. A Standards Committee must have no less than five and no more than nine members. It must have at least one member who represents town, city and community councils, elected members of the County Council and independent members. The majority of the members of the Committee must be independent members.
- 4.3. Denbighshire's Standards Committee has seven members including four independent members, two county councillors and one community council representative member.
- 4.4. The county councillor members and the community council representative members' terms of office run until the next ordinary local government elections.
- 4.5. Independent members may be appointed for an initial term and can be reappointed for one consecutive additional term. Independent members must stand down at the end of their second term.
- 4.6. Of the current independent members of the Committee, three are in their second terms of office.
- 4.7. Two of those terms of office, namely those of the Chair and Vice Chair are due to end in May 2025 and one, that of Peter Lamb, is due to end in May 2026.
- 4.8. Samuel Jones is in his first term of office.
- 4.9. Given that the Chair and Vice-Chair's terms of office are due to end in May 2025, Committee is asked to consider the recruitment process for new Independent members of the Committee.
- 4.10. The process is prescribed by law. There must be a public advertisement, following which, there must be a recruitment panel consisting of no more than five members, one of which should be a member of the public. Earlier this year, Council approved the composition of the recruitment panel to consist of a member of the public, the two county councillor members of the Committee, the Community Council representative on the Committee and the Chair of the Committee.
- 4.11. The Committee is asked to consider the timing of the commencement of the recruitment process.

## **5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027: The Denbighshire We Want?**

5.1. There is no direct impact upon the Corporate Plan.

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

6.1. There are no additional costs associated with this report.

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

7.1. No assessment is required for this report.

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

8.1. There have been no consultations. Council approved the composition of the recruitment panel in February 2024.

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

9.1. There are no additional costs associated with this report.

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

10.1. There is a risk that failure to recruit Independent Members will leave the Committee inquorate.

## **11. Power to make the decision**

11.1. Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2021