

Report to Council

Subject: Recruitment of co-opted independent member to the Standards Committee

Date: 26 April 2017

Author: Director of Organisational Development and Democratic Services

1. Purpose of the Report

To seek approval to co-opt Rosalie Hawks on to the Standards Committee to fill the vacant post of co-opted independent member.

2. Background

- 2.1 Members will recall that the Standards Committee is not politically balanced and comprises 3 co-opted non-voting members (1 Independent and 2 Parish representatives) in addition to elected Members. The position of co-opted independent member has been vacant since May 2016 when Gordon Wallis stepped down for personal reasons. The position was not filled immediately as the Standards Committee had agreed to conduct a review of the standards regime which included consideration of the composition of the Committee. Following that review, the Standards Committee agreed that the composition of the Committee should remain and that steps should be taken to recruit to the vacant position.
- 2.2 An article was placed in the winter edition of Contacts and the vacancy was advertised on the Council's website. Following application and interview by an interview panel consisting of members of the Standards Committee, the Standards Committee recommends to Council that Rosalie Hawks should be co-opted on to the Standards Committee to fill the vacant post of co-opted independent member. In view of the fact that this is a new appointment, the Committee also recommends that Ms Hawks is co-opted until the annual meeting in 2018. The members of the interview panel will carry out a review and recommend whether the co-option should continue.

3. Proposal

It is proposed that Rosalie Hawks is co-opted on to the Standards Committee to fill the vacant post of co-opted independent member until the annual meeting in 2018.

4. Financial Implications

On appointment, the co-opted member will be entitled to receive the co-opted members' allowance agreed as part of the Members' Allowances Scheme, which can be accommodated from existing budgets.

5. Appendices

None.

6. Background papers

None identified.

7. Recommendation

It is recommended that Rosalie Hawks be co-opted on to the Standards Committee to fill the vacant post of co-opted independent member until the annual meeting in 2018.