

Report to Standards Committee

Subject: Recruitment of co-opted parish representatives

Date: 10 June 2021

Author: Deputy Monitoring Officer

Purpose

To seek approval to commence recruitment for the 2 vacant posts of co-opted parish representative.

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- 1) Members agree to commence the recruitment process to fill the two co-opted parish council representative vacancies as detailed in this report;**
- 2) An Interview Panel of three, drawn from the membership of the Standards Committee, is established and that the Panel shall make a recommendation as to appointment to the next meeting of this Committee; and**
- 3) The interview panel shall be able to interview candidates and make recommendations to appoint to any future vacancies that arise for co-opted members or independent persons.**

1 Background

- 1.1 In July 2012, Council agreed that the Standards Committee should not be politically balanced and should comprise 2 co-opted parish representatives and 1 co-opted independent member in addition to elected members. In addition to the one existing vacancy, Patricia Woodfield has informed us that she is to step down from her position as member of Woodborough Parish Council which means that she is unable to continue as a co-opted parish representative on the Standards Committee. The Monitoring Officer

has thanked Patricia Woodfield for her services and contribution to the Standards Committee.

- 1.2 An application pack has been prepared and, subject to approvals received at today's meeting, it is proposed to send the pack to all Parish Clerks in the borough with a request that they bring it to the attention of their Parish Councillors. Following receipt of any applications, the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Standards Committee, will consider suitability of the applicants for interview.

2 Proposal

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Committee agrees to set up an interview panel to interview candidates for the 2 vacant posts of co-opted parish representatives following any shortlisting process carried out by the Monitoring Officer. The interview panel will interview any suitably qualified candidates and recommend who should be appointed to the next meeting of the Standards Committee, however, full Council will have to formally agree to co-opt.
- 2.2 It is also proposed that the interview panel should be able to interview candidates for any future vacancies that occur, for co-opted members or independent persons.

3 Alternative Options

- 3.1 The Committee could decide that a recruitment process is not needed therefore the vacancies would remain. This would mean that the Standards Committee would continue with two vacant seats.
- 3.2 A different timeline or method of recruitment could be agreed.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 None arising from this report.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Standards Committee has authority to deal with all matters relating to the recruitment of parish members to the Committee and make recommendations to Council as to such appointments.

6 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 None arising from this report

7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications

7.1 None arising from this report

8 Appendices

8.1 None.

9 Background Papers

9.1 None identified

Statutory Officer approval

Approved by:

Date:

On behalf of the Chief Financial Officer

**Drafted by the Deputy Monitoring
Officer**