

## **Report to Standards Committee**

**Subject:** Recruitment of co-opted Parish Representative

**Date:** 9 September 2021

**Author:** Monitoring Officer

### **Purpose**

To recommend to Council that Martyn Thorpe, Councillor for St Albans Parish Council should be co-opted on to the Standards Committee to fill the vacant post of co-opted parish representative.

### **Recommendation**

#### **That Members:**

- 1) recommend to Council that Martyn Thorpe, Councillor for St Albans Parish Council should be co-opted on to the Standards Committee to fill the vacant post of co-opted parish representative until the next annual meeting; and
- 2) delegate authority to the interview panel to review the appointment prior to the next annual meeting and recommend to Council whether the co-option should continue.

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 Members will recall that at the Standards Committee meeting on 10 June 2021 it was agreed that an interview panel comprising Councillors Boyle, Bosworth and Elliot be set up to interview candidates for the vacant posts of co-opted parish representative.
- 1.2 The two applicants were interviewed by the panel on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and the panel recommends that Martyn Thorpe, Councillor for St Albans Parish Council be co-opted to the Standards Committee to fill the vacant post of co-opted parish representative. In view of the fact that this is a new appointment,

the panel also recommends that he is co-opted until the next annual meeting and that the panel should review whether the co-option should continue.

## **2 Proposal**

2.1 It is proposed that the Standards Committee recommends to Council that Martyn Thorpe, Councillor for St Albans Parish Council should be co-opted on to the Standards Committee to fill the vacant post of co-opted parish representative until the next annual meeting.

2.2 It is also proposed that the Standards Committee delegates authority to the interview panel to review the appointment prior to the next annual council. The panel can then recommend to Council whether the co-option should continue.

## **3 Alternative Options**

3.1 The Committee could determine not to recommend co-option of this candidate, however there was a fair and open recruitment process and the panel determined that Martyn Thorpe was a suitable candidate for appointment after reviewing his application and undertaking an interview. The Committee already determined to fill the vacant parish rep post at the previous Committee meeting in June.

## **4 Financial Implications**

4.1 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 is currently set at £500 per annum. This will be met from existing budgets.

## **5 Legal Implications**

5.1 Standards Committee have authority to deal with the recruitment of co-opted members and to make recommendations to Council on appointment.

## **6 Equalities Implications**

6.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

## **7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications**

7.1 There are no carbon reduction/environmental sustainability implications arising from this report.

## **8 Appendices**

8.1 None

**9 Background papers**

9.1 None identified.