

Report to Council

Subject: Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel members

Date: 20 September 2023

Author: Democratic Services Manager

Purpose

To seek approval to appoint Martyn Thorpe and Kelly Richardson as members of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Recommendation:

That Members approve the appointment of Martyn Thorpe and Kelly Richardson as members of the Independent Remuneration Panel

1 Background

- 1.1 The Local Authorities (Member's Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 requires that each council has an Independent Remuneration Panel, which consists of a minimum of three people.
- 1.2 At the July Council meeting, having received the report on the current year's remuneration and retirement of a member of the panel, members agreed to launch a recruitment exercise to fill the current vacancy and recruit an additional panel member. The recruitment exercise was launched on 1 August with a closing date of 25 August and the opportunities were advertised on the Council's website, through social media, to parish and borough councillors and to groups across the borough.
- 1.3 As per the agreement at the July meeting, a cross party interview panel was formed, which consisted of one member from each political party. The interview panel, consisting of Councillors Elliott, Rachael Ellis and Hughes interviewed applicants on the morning of Thursday 31 August and unanimously agreed to recommend two candidates, Martyn Thorpe and Kelly Richardson for appointment.
- 1.4 The candidates recommended by the panel have been notified and have both accepted the position, subject to the approval of Council. If approved then a meeting of all the panel members will take place in October, which will allow members to review and agree a process for the review of members allowances for the upcoming

year.

2 Proposal

It is proposed that Council agree to the appointment of Martyn Thorpe and Kelly Richardson as members of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

3 Alternative Options

Members could determine not to approve the appointments to the IRP, however three panel members are required in accordance with regulations and an additional member will ensure meetings are quorate.

4 Financial Implications

On appointment, the panel members will be entitled to an allowance of £300 per year, which can be met from existing budgets.

5 Legal Implications

There is a legal requirement to have an Independent Remuneration Panel. There is no requirement to have four members, however, it is helpful to ensure future meetings are quorate.

6 Equalities Implications

There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications

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

8 Appendices

None

9 Background papers

Council report – Member allowance scheme and recruitment to Independent Remuneration Panel – 12 July 2023 [Develop and begin implementation of Action Plan for Arnold Town Centre, in partnership with Arnold Business Forum and other stakeholders \(gedling.gov.uk\)](#)

10 Reasons for Recommendations

To ensure the Council has a well-functioning Independent Remuneration Panel, as required by legislation.

Statutory Officer approval

Approved by the Chief Financial Officer

Date: 11.09.2023

Approved by the Monitoring Officer

Date: 11.09.2023