

Report to Council

Subject: Appointment of an Independent Remuneration Panel member

Date: 26 July 2024

Author: Democratic Services Manager

Purpose

To seek approval to appoint Mark Chowdhury as a member of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Recommendation:

That Members approve the appointment of Mark Chowdhury as a member 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 September 2023 Council meeting, Council agreed to the appointment of Martyn Thorpe and Kelly Richardson to the IRP which brought the membership of the group to 4. In January 2024, following resignation of one of the panel members Council agreed to launch a recruitment exercise to fill that vacancy.
- 1.3 As per the agreement at the January meeting, a cross party interview panel was formed, which consisted of one member from each political party. The interview panel, consisting of Councillors Elliot, Rachael Ellis and Hughes interviewed applicants on the morning of Thursday 18th July and unanimously agreed to recommend for appointment.
- 1.4 The candidate recommended by the panel has been notified and has accepted the position, subject to the approval of Council. If approved then a meeting of all the panel members will take place in October.

2 Proposal

It is proposed that Council agree to the appointment of Mark Chowdhury to the

Independent Remuneration Panel.

3 Alternative Options

Members could determine not to approve the appointment 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

None

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: 18/07/2024

Approved by the Monitoring Officer
Date: 18/07/2024