

From: Ben Watts, General Counsel
To: Selection and Member Services Committee, 28 October 2024
Subject: Appointment of the Member Remuneration Panel
Status: Unrestricted

1. Introduction

- a) The current Member Allowances Scheme comes to an end on 31 March 2025. It is the responsibility of County Council to agree a new scheme. Before making any decisions on changing the scheme, or updating the scheme, the Council must have before it recommendations prepared by an independent Member Remuneration Panel (MRP).
- b) The practice of the Council has been to appoint MRP members to four year terms. The current Panel's term of office concludes on 31 October 2024.
- c) This role of this Committee is to nominate three individuals for appointment to the MRP by full Council.

2. Monitoring Officer Recommendations

- a) In order to maintain a separation between the Members and the recruitment of the Panel responsible for making recommendations on allowances, the Monitoring Officer is responsible for the recruitment exercise and making recommendations to this Committee.
- b) Following a public advertisement exercise on the County Council website, shortlisting and interviews were undertaken by Officers within Governance, Law and Democracy. The outcome is that the following three individuals are being recommended:
 - a. Malvern Chirume.
 - b. Karen Price.
 - c. Roisin Reynolds.
- c) CVs of the individuals named above have been made available to Members of this Committee. None are members of the current Panel. The appropriate pre-employment checks are being conducted and any appointment will be subject to these being completed satisfactorily.

3. Member Remuneration Panel Reviews

- a) As agreed by this Committee on 9 March 2023, and subsequently endorsed by County Council, the Panel will be asked to first produce recommendations for a one-year Member Allowances Scheme covering 2025/26. The new Panel will be able to commence work on this following the official start of their term once formally appointed by full Council.

- b) The Panel will then be asked to make recommendations for the next four-year scheme covering April 2026 to March 2030. This will mean that following this transition period, each four-year scheme will be offset from the election year. This will mean clarity for individuals considering standing for election, and will enable the new Council to consider what will be needed for the next scheme.

4. Recommendation

The Selection and Member Services Committee is asked to recommend Malvern Chirume, Karen Price, and Roisin Reynolds to County Council for appointment to the Member Remuneration Panel for a four-year term commencing 1 November 2024.

5. Exempt Appendix

The Appendix is restricted to Members of the Committee under section 15.15(a) of the Constitution.

6. Background Documents

None.

7. Report Author and Relevant Director

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