

By: Peter Homewood, Chairman of the Selection and Member Services Committee
Peter Sass, Head of Democratic Services

To: County Council – 20 October 2011

Subject: Terms of Appointment of the independent Members of the Standards Committee and Member Remuneration Panel

Summary: The existing four year terms of office for the independent members of the Standards Committee and Member Remuneration Panel expire at the end of October 2011. Members are eligible subject to re-appointment to serve for a maximum of eight years. The County Council is asked to agree to the extension of the Independent Members' appointments from 1 November 2011 to 31 October 2012 for the reasons set out in the report.

Introduction

1. The current terms of office for the Independent Members of both the Standards Committee (Roberta MacCrone, Peter Gammon and Nadra Ahmed) and the Member Remuneration Panel (Fiona Leathers, Linda Frampton and Elizabeth Tullberg) expire at the end of October 2011. At its meeting in November, 2007, when the existing independent members were appointed, the County Council agreed that Independent Members may serve no more than two consecutive four year terms before standing down. All of the current independent Members are eligible for re-appointment, having served only one term.

Proposed extension of the current terms of office

2. At the end of the four year term the County Council would normally undertake a public recruitment process to appoint/re-appoint independent members to both the Standards Committee and Member Remuneration Panel.

3. However, the Deputy Leader has suggested that the independent members of the Standards Committee and the Member Remuneration Panel should be approached to establish whether or not they would be willing to continue their appointment for a further 12 months from 1 November 2011, without publicly advertising the positions at this time. This would ensure continuity and better enable the Council to respond to the new Standards Committee regime proposed in the Localism Bill and the ongoing review of the governance and structure of the democratic framework of the Council.

4. All of the Independent Members of both the Standards Committee and the Member Remuneration Panel have confirmed that they would be willing to continue with their current appointment until 31 October 2012.

5. At its meeting on 12 September 2011, this report was considered and agreed by the Selection and Member Services Committee for determination by the County Council.

Recommendation

That the County Council approve the extension to the appointment of Mrs N Ahmed, OBE, DL, Mr P Gammon, MBE and Miss R MacCrone to the Standards Committee and Mrs L Frampton, Mrs F Leathers and Mrs E Tullberg to the Independent Remuneration Panel for a further 12 months from 1 November 2011 until 31 October 2012.

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