

By: Head of Democratic Services

To: Standards Committee – 6 March 2007

Subject: **INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Classification Unrestricted

Summary: The terms of office of the three independent Members of the Standards Committee expire on 30 June 2007. This report advises the Committee of the arrangements for recruiting new independent Members.

FOR INFORMATION

- 1 The terms of office of the three independent Members of the Standards Committee – Mrs Fiona Leathers, Miss Roberta MacCrone and Mr John Ogden – expire on 30 June 2007.
- 2 Selection Committee on 18 January agreed the process for recruiting new independent Members for both the Standards Committee and the Member Remuneration Panel for the period from 1 July 2007. Up to now, the same independent Members have served on both bodies but recent Regulations mean that it is now necessary to appoint different independent Members to each.
- 3 The normal rule is that independent Members of the Standards Committee may serve a maximum of two terms but, on this occasion, because of the need to appoint a total of six independent people (three for the Standards Committee and three for the Member Remuneration Panel), Selection Committee agreed to waive that rule and all three existing independent Members will be invited to apply for re-appointment to either the Standards Committee or the Member Remuneration Panel. In addition the posts will be advertised in local newspapers and through relevant local networks.
- 4 As on previous occasions, a separate independent Selection Panel, made up of three people (one nominated by each political group) will be convened to shortlist and interview applicants and make recommendations to Council for appointment.

- 5 The Selection Committee decided that the new independent member appointments to both the Standards Committee and the Member Remuneration Panel should be for a maximum period of four years, until 30 June 2011, subject to some of the independent Members being appointed, on this occasion only, for a shorter period, in order to allow terms of office to be staggered to ensure some element of continuity of membership in future.
- 6 Members are requested to note the contents of this report.

Background documents: None

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