

North Somerset Council

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING: 24 SEPTEMBER 2019

SUBJECT OF REPORT: APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT (LAY) MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES TO THE STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE

TOWN OR PARISH: COUNCIL-WIDE

OFFICER/MEMBER PRESENTING: HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND MONITORING OFFICER

KEY DECISION: N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council re-appoints for a period of four years Mr Ian Carrington-Porter and Mr Nick Carter-Brown as non-voting Independent (Lay) Member representatives of the Standards Sub-Committee in accordance with Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011.

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

The Localism Act 2011 requires each Authority to have a committee to deal with any breaches of the Code of Conduct. The Act also requires the Authority to appoint an independent person to consider complaints.

2. POLICY

The Localism Act requires the Council to have a committee to deal with standards issues and cases relating to a breach of the Code of Conduct. The Act also requires the Council to appoint an independent person to consider complaints.

3. DETAILS

3.1 The requirement to have a Standards Committee ceases to have effect under the Localism Act 2011 but the Council is still required to appoint a committee to deal with standards issues and cases relating to a breach of the Code of Conduct.

3.2 The Council has established a sub-committee of the Planning and Regulatory Committee (the Standards Sub-Committee). All Members of the Planning and Regulatory Committee are Members of the Sub-Committee with only three being called upon at any time to form the Sub-Committee.

3.3 The Authority is required to select at least two suitable persons to be appointed as the Independent Person(s) under Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011 and the resolution of the Council at its 17 July 2012 meeting was to delegate the interview process to the Monitoring Officer to ensure that the Authority had the requisite independent person as required by the Act.

3.4 The two current Independent Members, Mr Ian Carrington-Porter and Mr Nick Carter-Brown, were appointed at the Council Meeting on 14 July 2015 for a period of four years. They have been contacted to ask if they would be willing to continue in their role for a further 4 years for continuity and both have confirmed that this would be acceptable.

4. CONSULTATION

The two current Independent Members were asked if they would be willing to continue in their role for a further four years.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All co-opted Members of the Standards Sub-Committee may claim travel expenses when attending for Sub-Committee business.

6. LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS

None

7. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

None

9. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

Appointments were made regardless of gender, race or disability.

10. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

None

11. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

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APPENDICES

None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Section 28 (7), Localism Act 2011
North Somerset Council Minutes 17 July 2012