



Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance)

Council

Date: 9th April 2008

Subject: Appointment of Independent Member of Standards Committee

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Executive Summary

1. This report recommends that the Council appoint Mr Philip Turnpenny to the role of Independent Member of the Standards Committee with effect from Thursday 10th April 2008.
2. The Standards Committee is currently comprised of five elected Members, two Parish Representatives and three Independent Members. Following the resignation of Ms Cheryl Grant in October 2007, a vacancy arose for an Independent Member.
3. Following an appointments process, interviews took place on Monday 31st March 2008. The interview panel was made up of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance), the Chair of the Standards Committee, and the Head of Governance Services.
4. Members are recommended to appoint Mr Philip Turnpenny to the role of Independent Member of the Standards Committee with effect from Thursday 10th April 2008, until the annual meeting in 2012.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend that the Council appoint Mr Philip Turnpenny to the role of Independent Member of the Standards Committee with effect from Thursday 10th April 2008.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The Standards Committee is currently comprised of five elected Members, two Parish Representatives and three Independent Members. Following the resignation of Ms Cheryl Grant in October 2007, a vacancy arose for an Independent Member.
- 2.2 Following an appointments process, interviews took place on Monday 31st March 2008. The interview panel was made up of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance), the Chair of the Standards Committee, and the Head of Governance Services.
- 2.3 Independent Members are currently appointed for a term of office of four years, and can only serve two terms in total.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 Mr Philip Turnpenny is currently the Director of Human Resources at Moores Furniture Group Ltd in Wetherby, although will be retiring in June of this year.
- 3.2 Mr Turnpenny is also a Magistrate sitting in both the Adult and Family Proceedings Courts in Bradford and a governor at Tadcaster Grammar School as well as the Chairman of their Finance Committee.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance

- 4.1 According to the Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee) Regulations 2001, each Standards Committee should be made up of at least 25% of Independent Members. In order to comply with this regulation, a new Independent Member needs to be appointed to the Standards Committee as soon as possible.

5.0 Legal And Resource Implications

- 5.1 Mr Turnpenny has confirmed that he meets the legal requirements for this role.
- 5.2 The position of Independent Member attracts an allowance of £557 per annum, although this can be met from within existing resources.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 The interview panel recommend that Mr Turnpenny is appointed to the role of Independent Member from 10th April 2008.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 Members are recommended to appoint Mr Philip Turnpenny to the role of Independent Member of the Standards Committee with effect from Thursday 10th April 2008, until the annual meeting in 2012.