

## COUNCIL

DATE: 23 OCTOBER 2018

### **FURTHER TERM OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE ETHICS & STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

*Report Submitted by: Delyth Harries, Monitoring Officer and Assistant Chief Legal Officer*  
*Report Written by: Delyth Harries, Monitoring Officer and Assistant Chief Legal Officer*

#### **1. Area Affected**

1.1 County Borough wide.

#### **2. Purpose of Report**

2.1 To appoint Mr Andrew Walsh as independent members of the Ethics & Standards Committee for a further term of 4 years.

#### **3. Recommendation**

3.1 That Council approves the appointment of Mr Andrew Walsh as independent member of the Ethics & Standards Committee for a further term of four years commencing on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

#### **4. Background**

4.1 Mr Andrew Walsh was first appointed as an independent member of the Ethics & Standards Committee by Council for a term of four years from the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

4.2 Regulations specify the number of Independent Members which must be appointed to a Standards Committee. They may be appointed for a term of between 4 and 6 years and may be reappointed for one further term of not more than four years.

4.3 It is important that the Committee retain its experience and knowledge hence the regulations allow for a further term of office.

4.4 The Council does have one reserve candidate. However, as Mr Walsh has indicated his willingness to continue in office, it is felt that that is the more beneficial solution in these circumstances. The reserve candidate would still be retained should any future unplanned vacancy occur and puts the Council in the best possible position regarding the availability of independent members.

#### **5. The Regulations**

5.1 The Regulations allow a further term of up to 4 years which would allow a continuing level of experience amongst the independent members.

#### **6. Action to be taken following the decision**

6.1 The Monitoring Officer will confirm the new terms of appointment with Mr Walsh if the recommendation is approved.

**7. Risks**

7.1 Unless the further appointment of an Independent Member to the Ethics & Standards Committee is made before the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019 there may be insufficient Independent Members able to attend at each meeting to ensure that a quorum is established.

7.2 If Mr Walsh is not appointed by Council, an interview panel would have to be established, interviews held to select a candidate and then the suggested appointment would be put forward to Council to approve. The Council would be adversely affected if the work of the Ethics & Standards Committee could not immediately continue in the near future.

7.3 Should there be a sudden vacancy amongst the Independent Members, a reserve Independent Member is still available.

**8. Recommendation**

8.1 That Council approves the appointment of Mr Andrew Walsh as an independent member of the Ethics & Standards Committee for a further term of 4 years commencing on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

<b>Background Papers</b>	The Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001 and 2006. The Standards Committee (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006.
<b>Appendices</b>	None