

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

FRIDAY 31 AUGUST 2012 AT 10.00AM

PRESENT: Boaden, Mrs Bowman, Mrs Bradley, Craig, McDevitt and Mrs Parsons, Stothard (as substitute for Councillor Harid)

ST.06/12 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was moved and seconded that Councillor Mrs Bradley be appointed Chairman of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Mrs Bradley be appointed Chairman of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

Councillor Mrs Bradley thereupon took the Chair.

ST.07/12 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman sought nominations with regard to the appointment of a Vice-Chairman for the Committee.

It was moved and seconded that Councillor Boaden be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

It was moved and seconded that Councillor Mrs Bowman be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

Following voting it was:

RESOLVED – That Councillor Boaden be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2012/13.

ST.08/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Harid.

ST.09/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest affecting the business to be transacted at the meeting.

ST.10/12

PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Public and Press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph number (as indicated in brackets against each minute) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act.

ST.11/12

RECRUITMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

(Public and Press excluded by virtue of Paragraph 1)

The Director of Governance submitted report GD.43/12 regarding the recruitment of an Independent Member of the Standards Committee.

The Committee were reminded that full Council had, on 25 June 2012, given consideration to report GD.36/12 regarding the establishment of the new Standards Committee, the new Code of Conduct and the procedure for recruiting Independent Members of the Committee.

Previously the Government had created regulations to state that an Independent Person under the previous regime could be appointed as an Independent Person under the new standards regime. However, the Government amended its regulations to state that any such appointment could only be up to 30 June 2013.

The 'arrangements' adopted by the Council had to include provision for the appointment by the Council of at least one Independent Person who must be appointed through a process of public advertisement, application and appointment by a positive vote of a majority of all Members of the Council (not just of those present and voting).

The Council's Protocol required applications for the role of Independent Person to be considered by the Standards Committee who would then made a recommendation for the appointment to full Council.

The opportunity to become the City Council's Independent Person was advertised on the City Council's website and generated three applications which were included in the report for Members consideration. Members were also supplied with a copy of the Recruitment Pack and the Standards Committee Terms of Reference.

The Committee were disappointed that the appointment of Independent Person was only until June 2013. They asked that the Council make some representation to the Government to remove the restrictions and allow the Council to appoint an Independent Person of their choosing.

The Committee thanked all three candidates for their applications. The decision to choose one candidate was difficult due to the experience and knowledge of all three candidates. The Committee agreed to appoint Candidate 3 as the Independent Person and hoped that Candidates 1 and 2 agreed to act as reserve members.

RESOLVED – 1) That the Standards recommend to Council that Candidate 3 be appointed as Independent Person to serve on the Council's Standards Committee until 30 June 2013 with Candidate 1 and Candidate 2 being appointed as reserves.

2) That the post of the Independent Person be advertised as widely as possible in 2013.

(The meeting ended at 10.10am)