

Committee: Standards Committee

Date: 26 February 2013

Agenda item: 8

Wards: All

Subject: Appointment of co-opted members of the Standards Committee

Lead officer: Paul Evans, Monitoring Officer

Lead member: Chair of Standards Committee

Contact officer: colin.millar@merton.gov.uk

Recommendations:

- A. That the Standards Committee appoints a three member panel to interview and recommend to Council the appointment of a third co-opted member of the committee from 1 July 2013;
 - B. That the panel, advised by the monitoring officer, agrees the arrangements to advertise the position of co-opted member;
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. On 11 July 2012 the Council agreed that there should be 3 non-voting coopted members appointed to the Standards Committee. Nigel Brotherton and Beverley Huie were asked to take up two of these posts and have agreed to do so. The third post is currently vacant. It is necessary to make arrangements for the filling of this vacancy and to determine the criteria and terms of office for co-opted members.
- 1.2. On 24 October 2012 the Standards Committee agreed that the terms of office of the current co-opted members would be three years from 1 July 2012 and that a third member would be appointed for three years from 1 July 2013.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. It is recommended that an interview panel be appointed and that this panel will recommend direct to Council. The panel would also agree the advertising and shortlist applicants. The constitution of the panel in respect of political representation is a matter for the Committee. The panel will not be decision making so co-opted members of the Committee are eligible to be appointed.
- 2.2. Possible configurations are:
 - (i) A four person panel with one member from each group on the Committee plus a co-opted member
 - (ii) A three person panel with one co-opted member and two political groups represented
 - (iii) A three person panel with one member from each group and no coopted member

- 2.3. The Committee should determine who will Chair the panel. The Chair would not normally have a casting vote.
- 2.4. Committee, however, is free to make any alternative arrangement it wishes for the panel.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1. Committee can make any arrangements for the panel that it wishes to.

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 4.1. None

5 TIMETABLE

- 5.1. Report to Council for appointment - 10 July 2012.

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Co-opted members of the Standards Committee are entitled to an allowance of £100 per meeting attended totalling £300 per year per member. This is within the current budgetary provisions for members' allowances.

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. These posts are entirely discretionary. Co-opted members are non-voting members of the Committee.

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. None

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. None

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. None

11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

- None

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 12.1. None