



REPORT FOR STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Date: 10th FEBRUARY 2022

APPOINTMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

Purpose of report

To appraise members of the progress made with regard to the appointment of the three Parish Council representatives to the Standards Committee

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Members;

- (1) note the position thus far with regard to the appointment process relating to the vacancies for the three Parish Council representatives to the Standards Committee and**
- (2) accept the application from the third applicant even though it was submitted out of time**
- (3) either;**
 - (a) proceed to interview three applicants who applied for the role of Parish Councillor Representatives on the Standards Committee or**
 - (b) If members do not accept the out of time application, resolve that the Monitoring Officer contacts Northumberland Association of Local Councils and requests that the positions be advertised for one final time after which interviews would take place.**

Link to Corporate Plan

This report is relevant to the 'How' Priority – namely 'We want to be efficient, open and work for everyone'

Key issues

1. There is a need to appoint Parish Council representatives to the Standards Committee following vacancies arising after the last election
2. Members resolved on the last occasion that an interview panel comprising the following be set up with delegated authority to make recommendation to Council regarding the appointment of such representatives, Mr. J. Jackson, Councillors B. Flux and A. Wallace.
3. There are currently three Parish Council vacancies but only two applications were received within the timescale with a third application being submitted late.

Background

1. The current composition of this Committee provides for three Parish Council representatives to be appointed. Following the resignation of the previous Parish Council representatives towards the end of the term of the last Council, expressions of interest have been invited from serving Parish and Town Councillors to join the Committee through the offices of Northumberland Association of Local Councils and interested parties have been invited to contact the Council's Deputy Monitoring Officers.
2. The closing date for applications expired 30th November 2021 and only two applications were received within that timeframe. This was the second occasion that the positions had been advertised, insufficient expressions of interest having been received on the first occasion.
3. Members recommended that an interview panel be set up in anticipation of a number of applications having been received. However, only two applications were received within the timeframe. One late application was received outside of the timeframe in the New Year.
4. With regard to the interview process officers are in the process of contacting Monitoring Officers within the LA7 group of authorities with a view to how the appointment of Parish Council representatives was approached within those authorities and can provide an update at the Committee in this regard.

Implications

Policy	N/A
Finance and value for money	None significant
Legal	These are set out in the body of the report
Procurement	N/A
Human Resources	N/A
Property	N/A
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Risk Assessment	N/A
Crime & Disorder	N/A
Customer Consideration	The appointment of Parish Council representatives will give customers, and in particular, members of local councils, an assurance in relation to the operation of the ethical standards regime
Carbon reduction	N/A
Wards	All divisions

Background papers:

Council constitution

Report to Standards Committee of 14th October 2021

Report sign off.

Authors must ensure that officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

	Full Name of Officer
Monitoring Officer/Legal	Suki Binjal
Executive Director of Finance & S151 Officer	Alan Willis
Relevant Executive Director	Math McEvoy Carr
Chief Executive	Harjit Lally
Portfolio Holder(s)	/A

Author and Contact Details

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