

Report of	Meeting	Date
Monitoring Officer	Standards Committee	18 September 2008

UPDATE ON RECRUITMENT OF ADDITIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To update the Standards Committee on the recruitment of additional members.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- To recommend to the Council a candidate to be appointed as the additional Independent member of the Standards Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- The new Regulations and local assessment of complaints against Councillors requires three sub-committees for each stage of the process. Each sub-committee will need to consist of no less than three members of the standards committee, including an independent member and a parish council representative if the matter under consideration relates to parish issues.
- At the Annual Meeting the membership of the Standards Committee was increased to take account of this to ensure that there is an independent member and parish council representative available without a conflict of interest for both the assessment and review sub-committees.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region		Develop local solutions to climate change.	
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances		Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	√
Involving people in their communities		Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organization	

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

- A job description and person specification were drawn up and placed in Chorley Borough News and on the Council's website. Applicants were requested to apply by letter and interviews were held earlier this month.

7. Three candidates attended for interview with the interviews being conducted by Mr Ellwood, as the Independent Chair of the Committee, and Andrew Docherty, as the Council's Monitoring Officer. Three candidates were interviewed.
8. The preferred candidate lives in Chorley. She has experience of following procedures, writing and presenting reports, weighing up evidence and chairing meetings. She demonstrated that she had researched the post and had the skills required.

PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

9. The Committee must consult parish and town councils within its area on Parish Council issues. A letter was sent to all Parish and Town Councils within the Borough requesting them to nominate a representative.
10. At this stage it looks likely that there will be more candidates than vacancies and an interview process will be undertaken in October to select a total of three Parish Council representatives. A report will be presented to the next meeting to enable the Committee to make a recommendation to Council on the appointment of the Parish representatives.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

11. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Corporate Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	√	No significant implications in this area	

ANDREW DOCHERTY
CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Ruth Hawes	5118	17.09.08	RecruitingUpdateSept08