



Committee and date
Council

12 May 2022

Item

Public

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

Responsible Officer Tim Collard
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1. Synopsis

- 1.1 Shropshire Council is required by the Localism Act 2012 to have in place at least one Independent Person whose views are to be sought and taken into account when dealing with allegations that its Councillors, and those of the Town and Parish Councils in Shropshire, have failed to comply with the code of conduct.
- 1.2 Shropshire Council, in 2017, appointed two Independent Persons for a term of 5 years.

2 Executive Summary

- 2.1 The "arrangements" adopted by the Council for the promotion of ethical conduct must include provision for the appointment by Council of at least one "Independent Person."
- 2.2 The term of office for both of the current Independent Persons is coming to an end.
- 2.3 The Independent Person must not have been a member or co-opted member of the authority for a period of 5 years prior to their appointment and must have applied following an advertisement being placed locally.
- 2.4 An application has been placed, and 2 applications received to fill the vacancies that arise.
- 2.5 Both of the applicants are existing Independent Persons having been appointed for a period of 5 years by the Council in 2017.
- 2.6 The Monitoring Officer has consulted with both the Chair of the Council and the Chair of the Standards Committee and both are content with the Recommendation being made to Council to re-appoint the existing Independent Persons

3. Recommendation

3.1 That Mr Stephen Donkersley and Mr Tim Griffiths be appointed as Independent Persons for a period until the Annual Meeting of the Council due to be held in 2026.

REPORT

4 Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

4.1 The recommendations in this report, if approved, will have no impact on Children and Vulnerable Adults, Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, and other Consultation

5 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6 Climate Change Appraisal

6.1 The proposals will have no impact on climate change

7 Additional Information

7.1 The previous appointment had been made for a five year period to avoid the reappointment process coinciding with the ordinary election of Councillors to Shropshire Council.

7.2 The Monitoring Officer proposes that, having regard to previous experience and having regard to their recent applications, Mr Stephen Donkersley and Mr Tim Griffiths are appointed to the positions for a further four year period.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

None

Responsible Member

Chairman of Standards Committee – Councillor David Evans

Local Member

All

Appendices

None