

## MINUTE EXTRACT

### STANDARDS AND CONSTITUTIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – 20 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 25 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

The Interim Assistant Director: Law and Governance introduced a report on the appointment of Independent Persons to sit on the Committee.

In 2012 four Independent Person appointments were made but two had since resigned. There remained two Independent Persons who sat on the Standards and Constitutional Oversight Committee and Panel as their term of office had been subsequently extended until 15 July 2020.

A further recruitment exercise was approved by the Committee at its meeting on 5 December, 2016 (minute 23 refers) with the aim of appointing more Independent Persons because it was recognised that there were benefits to having independent voices on the Committee and its Panel, as Elected Members could take advantage of their expertise and experience. Therefore, it was considered very important to build up the pool of Independent Persons that could be called upon to assist the Council with Standards matters etc. and so increase resilience.

Independent Persons could also be requested to offer advice in respect of complaints made against Elected Members and could be called upon in the event of the proposed dismissal of the Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer or Chief Finance Officer in accordance with their statutory role.

The report updated the Committee on the recruitment of Independent Persons. The Selection Panel, consisting of Councillors David Elderton, Phil Gilchrist and Moira McLaughlin met on 14 September 2017 and interviewed four candidates. All four were deemed worthy of selection, subject to satisfactory references.

A Member suggested that a brief biography of each of the new independent members could be published on the website and the Interim Assistant Director: Law and Governance agreed that he would ask if they were agreeable to this.

**Resolved - That this Committee approves all four potential Independent Persons for recommendation to the Council for appointment, as follows:**

- **Mr G Kerr**
- **Mr JR McCosh**
- **Ms Angele Lloyd Prince**
- **Mr A Wilson**