



EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT COVER SHEET

Title of Report:	Appointment of Independent Members to serve on the Standards Committee and the Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee
Meeting of:	Council
Date:	3 rd December 2018
Is this an Executive Decision:	NO
Is this a Key Decision:	NO
Is the Report Confidential:	NO
If so, please state relevant paragraph from Schedule 12A LGA 1972:	[]



Essential Signatories:

ALL REPORTS MUST BE IN THE NAME OF A HEAD OF SERVICE

Monitoring Officer: **Angela Wakefield**

Date Signature

Chief Finance Officer: **Sal Khan**

Date Signature

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Council

Date: 3rd December 2018

REPORT TITLE: Appointment of Independent Members to serve on the Standards Committee and the Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee

PORTFOLIO: None

HEAD OF SERVICE: Sal Khan

CONTACT OFFICER: Chris Ebberley Ext. No. x1772

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. For Members of the Council to appoint Independent Members to serve on the Standards Committee and the Audit Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1. Part 3Ib of the Constitution states that 2 Members of the Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee shall be Independent Members who are not members or officers of the Council and who shall be (non-voting) members of the Committee for Scrutiny purposes only.
- 2.2. Part 3K of the Constitution states that 2 Members of the Standards Committee shall be (non-voting) Independent Members who are not of any parish or town council within East Staffordshire.
- 2.3. Following resignations from the previous Independent Members there were 2 vacancies on the Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee and 1 vacancy on the Standards Committee.

3. Contribution to Corporate Priorities

- 3.1. The Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee provides overview and scrutiny to the Value for Money Council Services priority.

4. Report

- 4.1. Adverts were placed on the Council's recruitment service, Talent Link, in May 2018.

- 4.2. 4 applications were received for the Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee position and 2 applications were received for the Standards Committee position.

- 4.3. 5 candidates were invited to attend an interview.

- 4.4. The interview panel consisted of:

4.4.1. Councillor Duncan Goodfellow (Chair of Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee)

4.4.2. Councillor Mick Bowering (Chairman of Standards Committee)

4.4.3. Angela Wakefield

4.4.4. Chris Ebberley

4.4.5. Lisa Turner

- 4.5. The following candidates were selected by the interview panel.

4.5.1. Robert Elliott – Scrutiny (Audit & Value for Money Council Services) Committee.

4.5.2. Robert has worked in Finance, Risk and Audit roles for over 30 years a part senior of teams implementing risk management systems, reporting tools and ad hoc projects/management reporting, corporate governance processes and procedures. He is currently employed as a Claims Management Officer in a support capacity providing enforcement action for the Ministry of Justice. His key duties include planning and delivering audits, issuing audit reports, letters of advice and letters of warning in relation to enforcement action aimed at ensuring Claims Management Companies are compliant with relevant rules and regulations.

4.5.3. Christopher Burden – Standards Committee.

4.5.4. Christopher has recently graduated from the University of Birmingham with a degree in Modern Languages (French and German). He has a passion for local government and an understanding of how policy changes can impact diverse communities. Christopher is able to remove himself from politics, and take the eye of an external, independent observer. This impartiality was evidenced throughout his studies in which he took numerous political modules.

5. Financial Considerations

This section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit: Lisa Turner

- 5.1. It is considered best practice to appoint independent members to the Audit Committee function.
- 5.2. There are no significant direct financial implications to the budget arising from this report.

6. Risk Assessment and Management

- 6.1. The main risks to this Report and the Council achieving its objectives are as follows:
- 6.2. **Positive** (Opportunities/Benefits):
 - 6.2.1. The Council will have an adequate number of Members involved in matters which are appropriate for them to consider.
 - 6.2.2. The Members of the Committee will be validly appointed.
- 6.3. **Negative** (Threats):
 - 6.3.1. If insufficient Members are appointed, or appointments are not made lawfully, this may have an impact on the ability of the Council to conduct its business.
- 6.4. The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register. Any financial implications to mitigate against these risks are considered above.

7. Legal Considerations

This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team: Angela Wakefield

- 7.1. The main legal issues arising from this Report are as follows.
 - 7.1.1. The proposals set out above are in accordance with section 13 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and with Regulation 4 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

8. Equalities and Health

8.1. **Equality impacts:** The subject of this Report is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. An equality and health impact assessment is not required.

8.2. **Health impacts:** The outcome of the health screening question does not require a full Health Impact Assessment to be completed. An equality and health impact assessment is not required.

9. Human Rights

9.1. There are no Human Rights issues arising from this Report.

10. Sustainability (including climate change and change adaptation measures)

10.1. Does the proposal result in an overall positive effect in terms of sustainability (including climate change and change adaptation measures) N/A

11. Recommendation

11.1. That the Council agree to the appointment of Independent Members serving on each Committee as set out in paragraph 4.5 of this report.

12. Background Papers

12.1. None

13. Appendices

13.1. None