

APPOINTMENTS

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the extension of the appointment of the Council's Independent Person.

2.0 Independent Person

2.1 The Localism Act 2011 requires the Council to appoint at least one Independent Person, whose views must be sought and taken into account before the Standards Committee makes a decision in respect of an allegation against a Member which has been investigated. The Independent Person's views may also be sought by a Member who is the subject of a complaint.

2.2 At its meeting on 20 September 2017, the Council appointed Mr Dennis Hall to the post for a period of two years from 1 October 2017, with provision for the Council to extend the appointment on two subsequent occasions (i.e. 6 years in total). The allowance payable for the post (which does not form part of the Members' Allowances Scheme) is set at £1,000 per annum plus reasonable travel and subsistence expenses and it is proposed that this continues.

2.3 Mr Hall is a retired local government solicitor and former monitoring officer, with extensive knowledge and experience of local government. He has provided valuable input and support to the Standards Committee and it is therefore recommended that his period of office be extended.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 The Council is recommended to extend the period of appointment of Mr Dennis Hall as Independent Person as set out in the report, for an additional period of two years from 1 October 2019.

