

## STANDARDS COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Monday, 4 September 2017
<b>Report Subject</b>	Committee Membership:- Vacancy on the Committee
<b>Report Author</b>	Deputy Monitoring Officer

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Committee should be made up of nine members but currently has a vacancy in its composition, which requires the appointment of a further lay member. The Fire Authority is also currently seeking to appoint a lay member to their standards committee. The committee therefore has the opportunity to consider advertising jointly with the Fire Authority in respect of the appointment and also to consider the possibility of a joint appointment in order to reduce costs and lend greater prominence to the campaign for the appointment.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To seek agreement from the Fire Authority to jointly advertise with the Council for a lay member to the authorities' respective standards committees, and to explore the possibility of a joint appointment with the Fire Authority.
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### REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	
1.01	The Committee, pursuant to the Council's Constitution, is to be composed of nine members, to include five "independent" or "lay" Members, who are not either a Councillor or an Officer or the spouse of a Councillor, or an Officer of this Council, or any other relevant Authority (as defined by the Local Government Act 2000); Three Councillors other than the Leader and not more than one Member of the Executive; and one Community Council Member.

1.02	The Committee currently has a vacancy, as there are only four lay Members on the Committee.
1.03	Appointments to the Committee must be made in accordance with the procedure set out in the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 (as amended) (the Regulations).
1.04	<p>That procedure has certain publicity requirements under Regulation 13 as follows:-</p> <p>(1) Where a vacancy arises for a post as an independent member of a standards committee the relevant authority concerned shall publish an advertisement in not less than two newspapers (which are not published by that relevant authority) circulating in its area.</p> <p>(2) The advertisement referred to in paragraph (1) above shall notify the local government electors for the relevant authority's area that the relevant authority is seeking to appoint an independent member to its standards committee.</p> <p>(3) A relevant authority may publish an advertisement in connection with any vacancy for a post as an independent member on that relevant authority's standards committee in any newspaper that it publishes.</p>
1.05	The term of office for a lay member of the Committee is to be not less than four and not more than six years.
1.06	The Regulations require an appointment panel to be set up and require specific criteria to be established for any lay member appointment to the Committee.
1.07	The Fire Authority for North Wales also needs to fill a vacancy for a lay member on their standards committee.
1.08	The costs of the required publicity, establishment of requisite criteria and establishment of an appropriate appointment panel, can be reduced if those costs are shared between the Council and the Fire Authority. Further, if costs are shared, there is the potential to give greater prominence to the advertisement campaign.
1.09	There is also the potential to make a joint appointment and then share the costs of remunerating the appointed member between the Fire Authority and the Council. There may be difficulties in this regard, given that the Fire Authority covers the whole of North Wales and, depending on the location of applicants, there may be a reluctance to travel between authorities. However, the campaign could potentially look to recruit either one person for both authorities or two people, with one person for each authority's committee.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	The cost of the appointment and associated with making the appointment, including the campaign and publicity.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	Fire Authority for North Wales.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	N/A

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	N/A

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	N/A  <b>Contact Officer:</b> Matthew Georgiou, Deputy Monitoring Officer <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702330 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:matthew.georgiou@flintshire.gov.uk">matthew.georgiou@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	N/A