

SUBJECT:	STANDARDS COMMITTEE INDEPENDENT MEMBERS
MEETING:	COUNCIL 3 MAR 22
DATE OF REPORT:	9 Feb 22
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report seeks Council approval for 1 new appointment to the Standards Committee.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Council is requested to approve the appointment of Mrs Marion Gibson to the Standards Committee.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 MCC's Constitution Part 2 Article 11 reflects the regulations regarding Standards Committees set out in Statutory Instrument 2001 No. 2283 (W.172) The Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001.
- 3.2 The regulations provide that a Standards Committee comprise between 5 and 9 members and that at least half be independent members. There are currently 6 members of MCC's Standards Committee: 2 County Councillors, 1 Town/Community Councillor and 3 Independent Members.
- 3.3 One new independent member is to be appointed in order to continue to operate the Committee at the numbers it has always utilised, in order that quorum of no less than 50% independent members can be maintained. The appointments must be ratified by Full Council.
- 3.4 An advertising campaign was run starting in November 2021 to appoint two independent members in accordance with the stipulations of the regulations. The response was encouraging and the Committee wish to convey their thanks to all applicants. However, of those interviewed, the committee appointed one of the applicants.
- 3.5 An interview was conducted on 28th January by a panel comprising of one current independent member, a community council representative, a County Council representative, and a lay person. Mrs Marion Gibson was selected and has passed subsequent reference checks.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION

- 4.1 A correctly constituted Standards Committee is a legal requirement and fundamental to the governance of local government. The criteria demanded a high calibre individual to fill each post, but there will be no bar to selection based upon any other criteria or protected characteristic.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 From May 2022, Independent members will be entitled to a fee of £210 for 4 hours and over and £105 for up to 4 hours and travel and subsistence payments as appropriate. The Chair of the committee (elected annually) will receive a fee of £268 and £134 respectively. This appointment and those remuneration changes have no additional resource implication on the existing budget.