
MEETING	JOINT STANDARDS COMMITTEE
DATE	28 NOVEMBER 2012
PRESENT	COUNCILLOR RUNCIMAN (CHAIR) (CYC MEMBER) COUNCILLOR BARTON (CYC MEMBER) COUNCILLOR CRAWFORD (PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER) COUNCILLOR MARTIN (VICE-CHAIR) (PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER) COUNCILLOR SCOTT (CYC MEMBER) COUNCILLOR SIMPSON (PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER) COUNCILLOR TAYLOR (CYC MEMBER)
IN ATTENDANCE:	MR DIXON (INTERIM INDEPENDENT PERSON)

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

20. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

[see also Part A minute]

Members received a report that provided an update on progress in recruiting independent persons to support the standards function.

The Appointments Panel had met in October and proposed to recommend the appointment of Mr David Laverick to fill one of the roles. The Panel had agreed that further efforts should be made to secure more applications before making a further recommendation for appointment.

Consideration was given to the arrangements to be put in place pending the appointment of two independent persons. It was agreed to recommend that the interim independent persons continue in this role. This would also ensure a smooth transition.

Members considered ways in which to attract further applications for the position as Independent Person. It was agreed that the following measures should be explored:

- An article in the local press highlighting the committee's role in raising standards and promoting awareness of the vacancy for an independent person.
- Advertising the position via York CVS.
- Advertising the position on the Public Appointments Commissioner website or newsletter.

Members were invited to forward any further suggestions to the Monitoring Officer for consultation with the Chair.

- RECOMMENDED:
- (i) That Mr David Laverick be appointed as an independent person.
 - (ii) That, until a full complement of independent persons has been appointed, the existing former independent persons be requested to continue to act in this role.

REASON: To ensure that the Council has appropriate arrangements in place for handling complaints against Members.

21. DISPENSATIONS

[See also Part A minute]

Consideration was given to a report that provided Members with information about the dispensation provisions available under the new regime, reminded Members of existing arrangements and identified some particular issues for consideration.

Discussion took place as to the circumstances in which it may be appropriate to grant a dispensation. Members stated that it was also important that dispensations that had been granted were recorded on the agenda papers for meetings.

RECOMMENDED: That agenda papers for meetings record dispensations that had been granted.

REASON: To ensure that the Council business may proceed effectively.

Councillor Runciman, Chair
[The meeting started at 3.00 pm and finished at 4.15 pm].