

Meeting of:	Appointments Committee re Standards Committee
Date of Meeting:	Tuesday, 04 March 2025
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	All Scrutiny Committees
Report Title:	Re- Appointment of Independent Members on the Standards Committee
Purpose of Report:	To seek approval for the re-appointment of two Independent Members on the Standards Committee.
Report Owner:	V. Davidson, Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services.
Responsible Officer:	K. Bowen, Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer.
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	No consultation required.
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for the Appointments Committee re Standards Committee.
Executive Summary:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent Members are Members who are not either a Councillor or an Officer of the Vale of Glamorgan Council or the spouse of a Councillor or an Officer of the Vale of Glamorgan Council or any other relevant Authority as defined by legislation, appointed in accordance with the procedure set out in the Standards Committees (Wales Regulations) 2001 (as amended) and the Standards Committees (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006. Independent Members are appointed for a period of not less than 4 no more than 6 years in accordance with Regulation 18(i) of the Standards Committees (Wales Regulations) 2001 (as amended) as amended by Regulation 28a of the Local Government (Standards Committees Investigations, Dispensations and Referral) (Wales) Amendment Regulations 2016 and may be re-appointed for one further consecutive term not exceeding 4 years. 	

Recommendation

1. T H A T the Appointments Committee re Standards Committee consider and approve the re-appointment of Mr. G. Watkins and Mr. R. Alexander, from 13th March, 2025, as Independent Members on the Standards Committee for the next four years.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. Having received confirmation from both Independent Members that they wish to be re-appointed for one further consecutive term, not exceeding four years in compliance with the legislation, until 12th March, 2029.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Standards Committee shall be composed of not less than five nor more than nine members. Its membership shall include:
 - (a) Five “independent” 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 Act, appointed in accordance with the procedure set out in the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 (as amended) and the Standards Committees (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006.
 - (b) Three Councillors other than the Leader(s) and not more than one member of the Cabinet.
 - (c) One member of a Town or Community Council wholly or mainly in the Council’s area (a “Community Committee Member”) and who is not also a member of this Council.
- 1.2 Independent Members are appointed for a period of not less than four nor more than six years in accordance with Regulation 18(1) of the Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001, as amended by Regulation 2(8)(a) of the Local Government (Standards Committees, Investigations, Dispensations and Referral) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2016, and may be re-appointed for one further consecutive term not exceeding four years.
- 1.3 The decision of the Standards Appointment Committee will be presented to the next ordinary meeting of the Standards Committee; currently scheduled for 27th March, 2025.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 Two Independent Members, namely, Mr. G. Watkins and Mr. R. Alexander were appointed to the Standards Committee on 13th March, 2019, for a six-year term of office. The terms of office are due to expire on 12th March, 2025 respectively, however, both Independent Members have advised Democratic Services that

they are prepared to be re-appointed for one further consecutive term not exceeding four years in accordance with the legislation.

- 2.2** It is therefore recommended that both Independent Members, as referred to above, be reappointed as Independent Members to the Standards Committee for a further four years in accordance with the legislation until 12th March, 2029.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** The role of the Standards Committee is to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Councillors, Co-opted Members and Church and Parent Governor Representatives.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1** None as a direct result of this report.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1** Payment of allowances for work undertaken as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee is determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

Employment

- 5.2** None as a direct result of this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.3** The Standards Committee have a duty to appoint Independent Members to sit on the Standards Committee in compliance with legislation.

6. Background Papers

[Section 8 – The Standards Committee - Vale of Glamorgan Constitution.](#)

[Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: annual report 2024 to 2025.](#)