



North Devon Council

Report to: Council

Report Date: 29 September 2021

Topic: Appointment to the Independent Remuneration Panel

Report by: Senior Solicitor/Monitoring Officer and Senior Corporate and Community Services Officer

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Under legislation, the Council must establish an Independent Remuneration Panel to consider appropriate allowances for Members. The Council must have regard to recommendations from the Panel when deciding what allowances to set.
- 1.2. Following the resignation of one former member of the Panel, the Council has recently advertised for members of the public to come forward to sit on the Panel and an interview had now taken place.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That Graham Russell be appointed to the Independent Remuneration Panel for a four year period.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1. To ensure that the Council is compliant with legislation and that the Panel has the correct number of members.

4. REPORT

- 4.1. In order to consider what allowances are appropriate, the Council must establish an Independent Remuneration Panel and consider any recommendations made by it.
- 4.2. The Panel should be made up of people who are not disqualified from being a Councillor and who are not already serving Councillors.
- 4.3. Following the resignation of one former member of the Panel, the Council has advertised for members of the public to come forward to sit on the Panel. The vacancy was advertised on the Council's website, Council's social media, Northern Devon Voluntary Service, advertisement placed in the North Devon Gazette and on South West Jobs website through South West Employers.
- 4.4. Following the advertisement of the vacancy, two applications were received, but only one candidate was available for interview, and this interview took place on 7th September 2021. The Panel should be made up of people who



are neither existing Councillors or Council Officers, nor people who have been Councillors or Officers of any local authority in the last 8 years.

- 4.5. Council at its meeting on 17 January 2018 re-established the Panel and appointed Jeremy Filmer-Bennett and Bryony Houlden (Chief Executive of South West Employers) for a four year period. These appointments are due to expire in January 2022.
- 4.6. Members of the Panel are entitled to receive reimbursement of expenses incurred.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. There are no major resource implications from this report.

6. EQUALITIES ASSESSMENT

- 6.1. There are not any equalities implications anticipated as a result of this report. If so, please complete the Equality Impact Assessment Summary form available on Insite and email to the Corporate and Community Services Team at equality@northdevon.gov.uk.

7. CONSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

- 7.1. Article 4, Paragraph 4.5.8.
- 7.2. Delegated power.

8. STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

- 8.1. This report contains no confidential information or exempt information under the provisions of Schedule 12A of 1972 Act.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1. The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report: (The background papers are available for inspection and kept by the author of the report). Report to Council on 17 January 2018.

10. STATEMENT OF INTERNAL ADVICE

- 10.1. The author (below) confirms that advice has been taken from all appropriate Councillors and Officers: Senior Solicitor and Monitoring Officer.