

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FROM 1ST JULY 2019

REPORT OF: TOM CLARK, SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL
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Wards Affected: All
Key Decision No
Report to: Council
Date of meeting: 30 January 2019

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the recommendation to appoint a panel of Council Members to select three independent persons to join the Remuneration Panel for a 4 year term from 1st July 2019.

Summary

2. Three vacancies exist for representatives on the Independent Remuneration Panel and are due to be advertised as the current term for those in post expires in July 2019. Applicants will be interviewed by a Panel of Members selected by the Leader. Council will then be asked to approve the appointments. This report is to seek Council's approval of the composition of the interview panel.

Recommendations

3. **Council is recommended to appoint a panel of three Members (being the Deputy Leader, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance, and the Cabinet Member for Community) for the interviewing purpose in order to recommend three persons to join the Independent Remuneration Panel for a 4 year term.**
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Background

4. Council appoints three independent Members to the Independent Remuneration Panel to serve for a period of 4 years. Two panel members were appointed in June 2015 and their terms are due to expire in July 2019. The third member was appointed May 2016, but resigned from the post in August 2018 as he no longer lives within the District.
5. As the terms of office for the remaining two members are due to expire, it is proposed that a fair and transparent recruitment process take place in February/March 2019 to fill all three vacancies.

Recruitment Process

6. It is proposed that the Council will follow the previous process when recruiting for members for the Independent Remuneration Panel. This will involve advertising the vacancies in the local press and on the Mid Sussex District Council's website.
7. The applicants will then be interviewed by a Leader's Panel consisting of the Deputy Leader, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance and the Cabinet Member for Community.
8. Once the interview process is completed, the appointments will be presented to Council to approve and the new panel members will serve a four year term of office to 30 June 2023.

Policy Context

9. The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2001 No.1280 provide for local authorities to establish and maintain an independent remuneration panel. The 2001 Regulations do not specify how a local authority may go about finding members of its remuneration panel.

Financial Implications

10. There will be some costs associated with the recruitment process but these will be minimal and within budget.

Risk Management Implications

11. There are no risk management implications.

Equality and Customer Service Implications

12. The recruitment for new panel members in 2019 will be a fair and transparent process open to all eligible members of the public.