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## STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

### 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 Following the resignation of one of two independent members of the Standards Committee Council are invited to consider the membership of this Committee.

### 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Standards Committee comprises 5 members, 1 parish member and 2 independent members. It is a statutory requirement that 25% of the membership is independent within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2000.
- 2.2 One of the independent members is employed by a Primary Care Trust. The Trust has entered into agreement with a London Borough to create integrated director-level appointments as a first stage to fully merging health and social care in that Borough. The independent member has been appointed to one of those posts and, although employed by the Trust, is technically an officer of the Borough and no longer independent. He has therefore been obliged to resign from the Standards Committee.
- 2.3 Unless the membership of the committee is reduced by 3 district councillors, the Standards Committee cannot meet the statutory requirements for a quorum until a new independent member is appointed. To avoid this difficulty in future it is suggested that the number of independent members be increased to 3.

### 3 NEW APPOINTMENT

- 3.1 An advert has been placed in accordance with regulations for the appointment of independent members. Any appointment must be approved by a majority of the Council. Applicants will be interviewed by the Chief Executive and Corporate Director (Law, Planning and Administration) and a recommendation made to Council.

### 4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The cost of advertising this post is estimated at £500

### 5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Standards Committee is not quorate unless at least 25% of its members are independent within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2000.

**6 RECOMMENDATION**

It is proposed that the Council **RESOLVES**

- (1) That membership of the Standards Committee shall comprise:  
5 members of the Council  
1 parish councillor who is not a district councillor  
3 independent members
- (2) That the Council record its thanks to Mr Owen Richards for his voluntary service as an independent member

John Honey

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**Background Papers:**

None

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