

COMMITTEE	The Council
DATE :	1 March 2012
TITLE	Appointments to the Standards Committee
PURPOSE	To approve appointments process
AUTHOR	Dilys Phillips, Monitoring Officer

1. Background

1.1 There are nine members on the Standards Committee, namely :

- 5 'Independent Members' (i.e. members without any connection with local government).
- 1 ' Community Committee Member, who is a member on any of Gwynedd's community councils (but not a member of Gwynedd Council).
- 3 elected members from Gwynedd Council.

2. Appointing Independent Members.

- 2.1 The terms of office of two on the Independent Members will come to an end in May this year. They have both been members of the committee since 2002, and as they will have served for two successive terms, they will not be eligible for reappointment.
- 2.2 The Council must therefore advertise for two new independent members. It will also be necessary, under the relevant legislation, to establish a Consultative Panel to consider the applications. The Panel, following interviews with the applicants, will provide recommendations to the full Council who will make the appointments.
- 2.3 In accordance with statutory requirements, the Panel must include a member from a community council and a 'Lay Panel Member', who is a person without any direct connection with eth Committee or local government in general. The Panel has also previously included three members of the Standards Committee (including one elected member).

3. Appointing Elected Members.

- 3.1 The three elected members' terms of office will come to an end with the local government elections in May this year. The appointment procedure followed in the past was for me to write to all eligible members of the Council inviting applications. The applications were presented to the Business Group so that it could then make recommendations to the Full Council, which makes the appointments.

4. Appointing the Community Committee Member

- 4.1 The Community Committee Member's term of office will also come to an end with the elections in May this year. Subject to the situation after the elections, the present member could be reappointed. Otherwise we would have to invite applications. Either way it will first be necessary to consult with all the community councils together with any association that represents them.

5. Criteria for appointment

- 5.1 Applicants will be appointed with reference to the criteria set by the Council for appointing members to the Committee. Setting such criteria is a statutory duty and a copy of the present criteria is appended.

6. Recommendation.

- 6.1 The Council is requested to confirm the attached Criteria for appointing members to the Standards Committee.
- 6.2 The Council is requested to delegate the Monitoring Officer the power to establish a Consultative Panel to consider the applications to be an independent member of the Standards Committee whenever a vacancy arises.
- 6.3 The Council is requested to delegate the Monitoring Officer the power to write to all eligible members of the Council whenever a vacancy for an elected member arises, and to present the applications to the Business Group for consideration.
- 6.4 The Council is requested to delegate the Monitoring Officer the power to establish a panel from amongst the members of the Standards Committee to consider applications to be a Community Committee Member whenever a vacancy arises.