



Constitutional and Nomination Committee

Date: Tuesday, 13 July 2021

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

Access to the Council Chamber

Public access to the Council Chamber is on Level 2 of the Town Hall Extension, using the lift or stairs in the lobby of the Mount Street entrance to the Extension. There is no public access from the Lloyd Street entrances of the Extension.

Face Masks / Track and Trace

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Meetings of the Health and Wellbeing Board are 'webcast'. These meetings are filmed and broadcast live on the Internet. If you attend this meeting you should be aware that you might be filmed and included in that transmission.

Membership of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee

Councillors - Karney (Chair), Craig, Curley, Flanagan, Lanchbury, Leese, Rahman, Reeves and Richards

Agenda

- 1. Urgent Business**
To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.
- 2. Appeals**
To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.
- 3. Interests**
To allow Members an opportunity to [a] declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and [b] record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears; [c] the existence and nature of party whipping arrangements in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting. Members with a personal interest should declare that at the start of the item under consideration. If Members also have a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.
- 4. Minutes** 5 - 14
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2021.
- 5. Membership of Council Committees**
To consider proposed changes to the membership of the Council's committees.
- 6. Appointments to joint authorities and joint committees** 15 - 22
The report of the City Solicitor is enclosed.
- 7. Co-opted membership of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**
The report of the City Solicitor **will follow**.
- 8. Terms of Office of the Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the Independent Persons** 23 - 26
The report of the City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer is enclosed.

Information about the Committee

The Constitutional and Nomination Committee deals with the appointment of councillors to serve on committees and certain external organisations.

The Committee also considers proposed changes to the Council Constitution and recommendations for the granting of civic honours to individuals and organisations. Business for consideration at a meeting is set out on the agenda sheet.

Copies of the agenda are available beforehand from the reception area at the Main Entrance of the Town Hall in Albert Square and may be viewed on the Council's website up to seven days prior to the date of the meeting (see web information below). Some additional copies are available at the meeting from the Committee Officer.

It is the Council's policy to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions which affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but may do so if invited by the Chair. If you have a special interest in an item on the agenda and want to speak, tell the Committee Officer, who will pass on your request to the Chair.

Agenda, reports and minutes of all Council meetings can be found on the Council's website www.manchester.gov.uk

Joanne Roney OBE
Chief Executive,
3rd Floor, Town Hall Extension,
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Manchester, M60 2LA

Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the Committee Officer:

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This agenda was issued on **Monday, 5 July 2021** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 3, Town Hall Extension (Lloyd Street Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA.

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Constitutional and Nomination Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 18 May 2021

Present:

Councillor Karney – in the Chair
Councillors Curley, Lanchbury and Leech,

CN/21/9 Minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2021 as a correct record.

CN/21/10 Membership of Committees 2021/22 and Appointment of Chairs of Committees

A report was submitted which asked the Constitutional and Nomination Committee to make recommendations to the Council about the size and composition of the Council's committees and to appoint chairs and deputy chairs of the committees.

The Committee expressed its thanks to the staff of the Council who had helped with the compilation of the membership details for all the committee appointments and other positions.

The details of proposed appointments of chairs and members of committee are listed below.

Councillor Leech referred to the previous appointments to committees for the former opposition group and requested the Committee did not appoint him to those Committees. Councillor Leech also nominated himself to the Environment and Climate Scrutiny Committee.

The Chair reported that Councillor Leech was to be appointed to the Health Scrutiny Committee.

Decision

To recommend to Council the appointment of the following members to the Executive Standing Panel for 2021/22:

Executive Standing Consultative Panel

Councillors -

Ilyas	Karney	M Sharif Mahamed	Taylor
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Chairs and Deputies

Decisions

1. To recommend to Council the appointment of the following members as chairs of scrutiny committees for the next municipal year:

Young People and Children	Councillor Reid
Communities and Equalities	Councillor Hacking
Economy	Councillor H Priest
Resources and Governance	Councillor Russell
Environment and Climate Change	Councillor Igbon
Health	Councillor Green

2. To recommend the Council to appoint the following members as chairs and deputy chairs of the non-executive committees for the next municipal year:

Committee	Chair	Deputy Chair
Audit	Councillor Ahmed Ali	
Planning & Highways	Councillor Curley	
Licensing and Appeals	Councillor Ludford	Councillor Grimshaw
Licensing Committee	Councillor Ludford	Councillor Grimshaw
Licensing Policy	Councillor Ludford	Councillor Grimshaw
Constitutional and Nomination	Councillor Karney	
Personnel	TBC	

Membership of Committees

The Committee reviewed the membership of committees.mike

Decision

To recommend to Council the membership of committees for the municipal year 2021/22 as follows:

Scrutiny Committees

Children and Young People (at least 10 members)

Councillors -

Reid (Chair)	S. Ali	Alijah	Bano	Collins
Lovecy	McHale	Nunney	Abdulatif	Hewitson

Co-opted Members

Representative of the Diocese of Manchester – Vacant*
 Representative of the Diocese of Salford – Mrs Julie Miles*
 Parent governor representative – Mr Ade Arogundade*
 Parent governor representative – Dr Walid Omara*
 Parent governor representative – Ms Zaneta Stepan*

Secondary sector teacher representative – Mr Liam Duffy
 Primary sector teacher representative – Mr Russell Lammas*

* denotes members with voting rights on education matters

Communities and Equalities (at least 10 members)

Councillors -

Andrews	Chambers	Connolly	M. Dar	S Judge
Douglas	Evans	Grimshaw	Hacking (Chair)	Battle
Rawson	Hilal	Azra Ali	Shaukat Ali	Whiston
Sheikh	Wills	Wilson		

Environment and Climate Change (at least 10 members)

Councillors -

Wright	Appleby	Butt	Shilton-Godwin	Foley
Hassan	Hughes	Igbon (Chair)	Jeavons	Holt
Lynch	Lyons	Razaq	Sadler	Chohan
Flanagan*				

Economy (at least 10 members)

Councillors -

Baker-Smith	Farrell	Bayunu	Johns	Moore
Raikes	Noor	H. Priest (Chair)	Strong	Doswell
Stanton				

Health (at least 10 members)

Councillors -

Curley	Green (Chair)	Reeves	Mary Monaghan	Newman
Riasat	Richards	Hassan	Leech	Cooley
Zahid Hussain	Nasrin Ali			

Resources and Governance (at least 10 members)

Councillors -

Ahmed Ali	Rowles	Clay	Davies	Hitchen
Lanchbury	Kirkpatrick	B. Priest	Russell (Chair)	Robinson
A Simcock	Wheeler			

Non-Executive Committees

Art Galleries Committee - In addition to the members of the Council, 7 persons are to be nominated by University of Manchester. (14 elected members)

Councillors -

Akbar	Bridges	Craig	Midgely	Leese
Rawlins	White	Rahman	7 x Co-opted	

Audit Committee (11 members plus 2 independent co-opted)*Councillors -*

Ahmed Ali (Chair)	Clay	Lanchbury	Russell	
Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
Vacant	Dr D Barker (Co-opted member)	Mr S Downs (Co-opted member)		

Planning and Highways Committee (up to 15 members)*Councillor*

Andrews	Shaukat Ali	Curley (Chair)	Y. Dar	Richards
Davies	Baker-Smith	Kamal	Lovecy	Lyons
Hutchinson	Riasat	Stogia	Kirkpatrick	

Licensing and Appeals Committee (not less than 10 and not more than 15)*Councillors -*

Evans	Grimshaw	Hughes	Jeavons	Hewitson
Ludford (Chair)	Connolly	McHale	Hassan	Reid
Flanagan	Lynch	S. Judge	Andrews	Chambers

Licensing Committee (not less than 10 and not more than 15)*Councillors -*

Evans	Grimshaw	Hughes	Jeavons	Hewitson
Ludford (Chair)	Connolly	McHale	Hassan	Reid
Flanagan	Lynch	S. Judge	Andrews	Chambers

Licensing Policy Committee (up to 6)*Councillors -*

Rawlins	Davies	Grimshaw	Ludford (Chair)		
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Standards Committee (6 members of the Council, 1 Ringway Parish Councillor and 1 Independent member and 1 independent person)*Councillors -*

Andrews	Evans	Connolly	Lanchbury	A Simcock
Nicole Jackson (Co-opted Independent)	Parish Councillor Christopher O'Donovan	Geoff Linell (Co-opted Independent)	Sarah Beswick (Co-opted Independent)	

Chair)	(Ringway PC)		person)	
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In accordance with Article 9 of the Council Constitution, to recommend the appointment of Councillor Andrews for the purpose of answering questions at Council on the work of the Standards Committee.

Personnel Committee - Membership formula comprises the Leader of the Council, all members of the Executive, one Assistant Executive Member.

Councillors -

Akbar	Bridges	Craig	Rawlins	Leese
Midgely	Rahman	TBC (Chair)	White	Sheikh

Employee Appeals Committee (Formulaic Membership)

An Executive Member with a relevant portfolio (i.e. Executive Member for the service in which the employee was working or the Executive Member with a portfolio relevant to the specific subject area of the appeal) or an appropriate Assistant Executive Member.

Two members drawn from the Council's Executive Members or their Assistant Executive Members, or elected members drawn from a prescribed 'pool'; the nominated members are –

- Councillor Evans
- Councillor Reid
- Councillor Strong
- Councillor Rawlins
- Councillor N Ali

Constitutional and Nomination Committee (10 members)

Councillors -

Curley	Karney (Chair)	Lanchbury	Richards*	Leese
Flanagan	Rahman	Reeves	Craig	

Health and Wellbeing Board

1. To recommend membership as follows:

- Leader of the Council (Chair)
- Executive Member for Adult, Health and Wellbeing (MCC)
- Executive Member for Children and Schools Services (MCC)
- Dr Ruth Bromley, Chair Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
- Dr Denis Colligan, GP Member (North) Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
- Dr Murugesan Raja GP Member (Central) Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
- Commissioning

- Dr Geeta Wadhwa GP member (South) Manchester Health and Care Commissioning
 - Kathy Cowell, Chair, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
 - Katy Calvin-Thomas, Manchester Local Care Organisation
 - Michael Luger, Chair of Northern Care Alliance
 - Rupert Nichols, Chair, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
 - Mike Wild, Voluntary and Community Sector representative
 - Vicky Szulist, Chair, Healthwatch
 - Dr Tracey Vell, Primary Care representative - Local Medical Committee
 - Paul Marshall, Strategic Director of Children's Services
 - David Regan, Director of Public Health
 - Bernadette Enright, Director of Adult Social Services
 - Dr Angus Murray-Browne, South Manchester GP federation
 - Dr Vish Mehra, Central Primary Care Manchester
 - Dr Amjad Ahmed, Northern Health GP Provider Organisation
 - Dr Doug Jeffrey, (South) Primary Care Manchester Partnership
2. To also recommend that Council approves that Health and Wellbeing Board member organisations can appoint a named substitute

CN/21/11 Appointments to Joint Authorities and Joint Committees

The Committee was invited to review the appointments and make recommendations for appointments to the Combined Authority, joint authorities and joint committees together with the appointment of spokespersons to answer questions about the work of the joint authorities at meetings of the Council as outlined in Council Procedural Rule 24.

Decisions

1. To appoint the following members to serve on the Joint Authorities for the 2021/22 Municipal Year:

Greater Manchester Waste and Recycling Committee

Councillors Rawlins and Shaukat Ali

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Councillor Leese (Deputy Leader as a substitute)

To appoint the following members to serve on the joint committees for the 2021/22 municipal year:

Parking and Traffic Regulation Outside London (PATROL) Committee

Councillor TBC

GM Transport Committee

Councillor Taylor (Substitute Councillor Connolly)*

Councillor Hassan (Substitute Councillor Farrell)*

AGMA Executive Board

Councillor Leese (2 Deputy Leaders as a substitute)

AGMA Statutory Functions Committee

Councillor Whiston

Manchester and Trafford Joint Health Scrutiny Committee – 5 seats (1 substitute)

Councillors Newman, Reid and Reeves. 2 Vacancies.

Greater Manchester Police and Crime Panel (1 member)

Councillor TBC

Greater Manchester Health Scrutiny Panel (1 member)

Councillor Butt (substitute TBC)

Greater Manchester Audit Committee

Councillor Russell* (3 vacancies)

2. To appoint the following members to serve on the other bodies for the 2021/22 municipal year:

Manchester Port Health Authority

Councillors Sameem Ali, Lanchbury and Andrews*

Schools Forum

Councillor TBC (plus 1 substitute)

GM Culture and Social Impact Fund Committee

Councillor TBC (plus 1 substitute)

GM Work and Skills Executive

Councillor TBC

Health and Social Care Partnership

Councillor TBC (plus 1 substitute)

Health and Social Care – Joint Commissioning Board

Councillor TBC

Clean Air Charging Authorities Committee

Councillor TBC

Air Quality Administration Committee

Councillor TBC (plus 1 substitute)

Draft Joint Development Plan – Places for Everyone Committee

Councillor TBC

Police and Crime Panel Steering Group

Councillor TBC

Planning and Housing Commission

Councillor TBC

Pennine Acute Hospital Trust Joint Scrutiny Committee

Councillors x 3 TBC

CN/21/12 Appointments to GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The GMCA's constitution approved at the 30 June 2017 meeting confirmed that the GMCA should have the following three scrutiny committees:

(a) Corporate Issues and Reform

- Matters of coordination and cross cutting policy themes
- Devolution and legislative matters
- Budget oversight and other financial matters
- GMCA organisational and staffing issues
- GM communications
- GM Connect data sharing
- GM's reform work
- Fire and rescue functions
- Fairness, equalities and cohesion

(b) Economy, Business Growth and Skills

- Investment
- Science and technology
- GM's global brand
- Culture, leisure and sport
- Improving GM's international competitiveness
- Business support
- Skills and employment to support business growth

(c) Housing, Planning and Environment

- Transport
- Regeneration
- Housing and planning
- Low carbon
- Waste

Decisions

1. Councillor Stanton* appointed to Economy, Business Growth and Skills Scrutiny Committee

2. Councillor Shilton-Godwin* appointed to Housing, Planning and Environment Scrutiny Committee

(4 of these nominations should be from the ruling group and 2 from the major opposition group, except where there is a hung council (or no opposition group). Districts with a 3 way hung council are expected to be politically inclusive in their nominations.

CN/21/13 Appointment of Lead Members

Decision

To appoint the following lead members –

LGBT Men's Lead	Councillor Wills
LGBT Women's Lead	Councillor Baker-Smith
Intergenerational Issues	TBC
Race	Councillor Hassan
City Centre	Councillor Karney
Disability	Councillor Cooley
Age Friendly Manchester	Councillor Newman
Women	Councillor Lynch/ Councillor Chambers
Active Travel	Councillor Shilton Godwin
Mental Health Champion	Councillor Douglas
Carers Champion	TBC
Race Women	Councillor Igbon
Trauma Informed	Councillor Monaghan

(*Amendments made and agreed by the Council on 19 May 2021)

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**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report to: Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 14 July 2021

Subject: Appointments to joint authorities and joint committees

Report of: City Solicitor

Purpose of Report

Further to the report considered on 18 May 2021, a number of nominations to various GMCA/AGMA bodies were left vacant. This report asks the Committee to provide information about the Council's outstanding appointments to the GMCA/AGMA joint bodies.

Recommendations

The Committee is invited to make recommendations to Council about the Council's representatives on the outstanding GMCA/AGMA joint bodies for the 2021/22 Municipal Year

Wards Affected All

Contact Officers

Mike Williamson
Governance and Scrutiny Support Manager
0161 234 3071
michael.williamson@manchester.gov.uk

Background Documents

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

1. Sections 15-17 Local Government and Housing Act 1989
2. Section 41 Local Government Act, 1985
3. Minutes of the Constitutional and Nomination Committee 2007/2008
4. Council Procedure Rules in the Constitution
5. The Local Government (Committee and Political Groups) Regulations 1989
6. The Health and Social Care Act 2012

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Constitutional and Nomination Committee is asked to review the Council's outstanding appointments to the GMCA/AGMA joint bodies and to make recommendations to Council about the Council's representatives to these bodies for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.
- 1.2 The Council may, if it wishes, make nomination to a number of GMCA and AGMA positions (as detailed in the table appended to the report), however the final decisions on these appointments rest with the GMCA and AGMA Executive Boards at their Annual Meeting due to take place in May 2021. As such, any nominations submitted by the Council may not necessarily be appointed.
- 1.3 The table appended to the report details, where appropriate, the specific membership requirement of particular organisations/bodies.

2. GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committees

- 2.1 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee will comprise 15 members.
- 2.2 Each Local Authority district is asked to make 6 nominations. 4 of these nominations should be from the ruling group and 2 from the major opposition group, except where there is a hung council or no opposition group.
- 2,3 Three of the six nominations are to be appointed as the Council's representative on one of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 2.3 The remaining 3 nominations will go into a "reserve" scrutiny pool from which a further 5 members per committee will be selected by the GMCA to ensure each committee meets its statutory and constitutional requirements regarding political balance and diversity.
- 2.4 Members of the pool who are not selected as permanent committee members, will be appointed by the GMCA as formal substitutes for all three committees. In the 2020/21 Municipal Year substitute members have regularly ensured that committees are quorate.
- 2.5 The final membership of the committees will be approved by the GMCA at its May 2021 meeting.

GMCA Appointment and Nominations 2021/22			
Body	Membership Requirement	Notes	MCC Nominations
Corporate Issues and Reform Overview and Scrutiny Committee	1 Member		Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
Overview and Scrutiny Reserve Pool	3 Members	<p>Nominations will go into a pool from which a further 5 members per committee will be selected by the GMCA to ensure each committee meets its statutory and constitutional requirements regarding political balance and diversity.</p> <p>Members of the pool who are not selected as permanent committee members, will be appointed by the GMCA as formal substitutes for all three committees</p>	Nominations to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
GM Culture & Social Impact Fund Cttee	1 Member 1 Substitute Member	<p>GMCA to agree final membership</p> <p>Recommend membership to replicate the AGMA</p>	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021

GMCA Appointment and Nominations 2021/22

Body	Membership Requirement	Notes	MCC Nominations
		Statutory Functions Cttee	
GM Work & Skills Executive	1 Member	Recommended that the appointment is the Lead Executive Member for Work & Skills	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
Health & Social Care Partnership Board	1 Member 1 Substitute Member		Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
Health & Social Care – Joint Commissioning Board	1 Member	Member appointed is to appoint their own deputies	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
Clean Air Charging Authorities Committee	1 Member 1 Substitute Member	Recommended that the appointment is the Lead Executive Member for clean air	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
Air Quality Administration Committee	1 Member 1 Substitute Member	Recommended that the appointment is the Lead Executive Member for clean air GMCA to appoint 1 substitute member	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021

AGMA Appointment and Nominations 2021/22

Body	Membership Requirement	Notes	MCC Nominations
Draft Joint Development Plan – Places for Everyone Committee	1 Member 1 Substitute Member	Member must be the Leader	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
Police and Crime Panel	1 member 1 Substitute Member)	Cannot be the Leader	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
Police & Crime Steering Group	1 Member	Cannot be the Leader	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021
GM Health Scrutiny Committee	1 Member 1 Substitute Member	Recommended that the appointment is the Chair of LA's Health Scrutiny Committee or a member of Health Scrutiny Cannot be Executive Members GM Political Balance rules apply	Councillor Shazia Butt Substitute - TBC
Planning and Housing Commission	1 Member	Recommended that the appointment is the Lead	Nomination to be made at Council on 14 July 2021

		Executive Member for Planning & Housing GM Political Balance rules apply AGMA Executive to agree final membership	
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**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report to: Constitutional and Nomination Committee – 14 July 2021
Council – 14 July 2021

Subject: Terms of Office of the Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the Independent Persons

Report of: City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Summary

To invite Council to extend the terms of office of the two independent co-opted members of the Standards Committee and the Council's two Independent Persons.

Recommendations

That the Constitutional and Nomination Committee recommend that Council extend the terms of office of Nicolē Jackson & Geoff Linnell (the two independent co-opted members of the Standards Committee) and Alan Eastwood & Sarah Beswick (the Council's two Independent Persons) for one year commencing on 18 November 2021.

Wards Affected – All

Financial Consequences – Revenue None

Financial Consequences – Capital None

Contact Officers:

Name: Fiona Ledden
Position: City Solicitor
Telephone: 0161 234 3087
E-mail: fiona.ledden@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Peter Hassett
Position: Senior Lawyer
Telephone: 0161 600 8968
E-mail: peter.hassett@manchester.gov.uk

Background documents (available for public inspection):

None

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 fundamentally changed the local authority Standards regime in England with the current standards regime coming into effect from mid-2012. The Committee on Standards in Public Life (“the CSPL”) completed a review of local government ethical standards and published a report on 30 January 2019.
- 1.2 The Council has delegated to the Standards Committee the power to deal with matters of conduct and ethical standards, and the promoting and maintaining of high standards of conduct by Councillors, Co-opted Members and church and parent governor representatives.
- 1.3 Members are invited to consider the potential extension of the terms of office of the Council’s Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the Independent Persons.

2.0 Independent Members of the Standards Committee

- 2.1 The Standards Committee is composed as follows:
 - Six elected Members of Manchester City Council (none of whom may be the leader of any political group and no more than one of whom may be a member of the Executive);
 - One Member of Ringway Parish Council who is not a Member of Manchester City Council (the Parish Member); and
 - Two people appointed by the Council who are not councillors or officers of the Council (Independent Members).
- 2.2 Independent Members are not be entitled to vote at meetings.
- 2.3 The Council appoints one of the Independent Members as Chair of the Standards Committee. In the absence of the appointed Chair, the Committee is chaired by the other Independent Member.

3.0 Independent Persons

- 3.1 Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011 requires all English local authorities to appoint Independent Persons (IPs) to help them to discharge their duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by their Councillors and co-opted members and any Parish Councillors.
- 3.2 An IP must be a person who has applied for the post following advertisement of a vacancy for the post, and appointed by a positive vote from a majority of all the Members of the Council at a meeting of the full Council.

3.3 Independent Persons have the following roles:

- An IP's views **must** be sought, and taken into account, by the authority before it makes its decision on an allegation that it has decided to investigate;
- The authority may also seek an IP's views on an allegation that it has not decided to investigate. However, there is no requirement for the authority to do so, or to take those views into account;
- A member or co-opted member of the authority (or of a parish council in its area) may seek an IP's views on an allegation made against them.

4. **Recommendations of the Committee on Standards in Public Life (“the CSPL”)**

4.1 In relation to Independent Persons, in January 2019 the CSPL made the following two recommendations to the government:

- (a) That the role of IPs should be strengthened. However, to avoid any possibility that their independence is compromised by a long period of involvement with a single Council, the CSPL recommended that IP appointments should be for a fixed term of 2 years, renewable once;
- (b) An IP should be consulted as to whether to undertake a formal investigation on an allegation and should be given the option to review and comment on allegations which the responsible officer is minded to dismiss as being without merit, vexatious, or trivial.

4.2 It still remains to be seen whether the government accepts these recommendations. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic the Government may encounter difficulties in setting aside sufficient Parliamentary time to debate these, and other recommendations of the CSPL in the near future.

5. **Terms of Office of the Independent Members and Independent Persons**

5.1 On 18 November 2015 the Council resolved to:

- extend Alan Eastwood's term of office as an Independent Person for four years commencing on 18 November 2015;
- appoint Sarah Beswick to act as an Independent Person for a term of office of four years commencing on 18 November 2015;
- appoint Nicolé Jackson as an independent co-opted member and Chair of the Standards Committee for a term of office of four years commencing on 18 November 2015;
- appoint Geoff Linnell as an independent co-opted member of the Standards Committee for a term of office of four years starting on 18 November 2015.

5.2 On 15 May 2019 the Council resolved to extend the terms of office of Nicolé Jackson & Geoff Linnell (the two independent co-opted members of the

Standards Committee) and Alan Eastwood & Sarah Beswick (the Council's two Independent Persons) for two years commencing on 18 November 2019.

5.3 The terms of office of all four will therefore expire on 17 November this year.

6. Recommendation of the Standards Committee

6.1 Whilst the response to the CSPL recommendation in relation to the terms of office of Independent Persons is awaited from the Government, the Standards Committee agreed on 17 June 2021, that Nicolé Jackson & Geoff Linnell (the two independent co-opted members of the Standards Committee) and Alan Eastwood & Sarah Beswick (the Council's two Independent Persons) be contacted to ask whether they are agreeable to the extension of their terms of their office for a period of one year from 18 November 2021.

6.2 It is confirmed that all four have been contacted and are agreeable to the extension of their terms of their office for a period of one year from 18 November 2021.

6.3 It is envisaged that in 2022 further consideration be given to advertising the offices of the two Independent Members of the Standards Committee and the two Independent Persons with a view to appointing new membership with effect from 18 November 2022.

7. Recommendation

The recommendations appear at the top of this report.