



Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Standards and Ethics Committee - 15 January 2026

Report Title

Standards and Ethics Committee - Appointment of Independent Member to the Standards and Ethics Committee

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

N/A

Report Author(s)

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Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

A report recommending the appointment of an Independent Member to the Standards and Ethics Committee following a recruitment and interview process

Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1) Recommends to Council the appointment of Ruby Wright as a co-opted Independent member of the Standards and Ethics Committee until the Annual General Meeting of the Council in 2029.

List of Appendices Included

None

Background Papers

None

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

None

Council Approval Required

Yes

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Standards and Ethics Committee - Appointment of an Independent Member to the Standards and Ethics Committee

1. Background

- 1.1 The Standard and Ethics Committee comprises eight borough councillors, three Parish Councillors and five independent members. Following two resignations by Independent members of the Standards and Ethics Committee last year, a recruitment exercise was undertaken as agreed by the Committee.
- 1.2 One application was received for the role and the candidate was interviewed by the two Deputy Monitoring Officers. The candidate is Ruby Wright, who has experience in teaching and governance and is considered to be suitable for the role and will provide beneficial expertise and enthusiasm to inform and assist the Committee's work, should it approve the appointment as recommended.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The key issues are set out above.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 3.1 Recommended proposals are set out above.

4. Consultation on proposal

- 4.1 An appropriate recruitment and interview process was undertaken in respect of the role.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

The appointment will be recommended to and considered at the next full Council meeting.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

- 6.1 None

7. Legal Advice and Implications

- 7.1 The Council and the Standards and Ethics Committee have a statutory duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct. Independent members are

an important part of the Committee and provide valuable insight and contribution to the work undertaken by the Committee.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

None

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

None

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

None

11. Implications for Partners

None

12. Risks and Mitigation

None

13. Accountable Officer(s)

Bal Nahal, Head of Legal Services

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