

TITLE	: STANDARDS COMMITTEE – INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TERM OF OFFICE		
TO / ON	: STANDARDS COMMITTEE		8 JULY 2003
REPORT FROM	: MONITORING OFFICER		
STATUS	: FOR PUBLICATION		

1.0 TYPE OF DECISION

1.1 What type of decision is to be taken:-

EXECUTIVE DECISION			COUNCIL DECISION	
Key		Non Key		YES

1.2 If a key decision, has it been included in the Forward Plan

Inclusion in Forward Plan	N/A	Date of Plan	
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2.0 SUMMARY

The current Independent Members of the Standards Committee were appointed until May 2003 and Council agreed that they continue in office beyond this date but that staggered terms of office be introduced.

3.0 OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDED OPTIONS (with reasons)

That the term of office of the three existing members of the Standards Committee be determined at the meeting of the standards Committee by lot.

4.0 THIS REPORT HAS THE FOLLOWING IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Aims

The Standards Committee has been set up to oversee the Council's ethical framework and the recruitment of Independent Members is key to this role.

Policy Framework

The membership of the Standard's Committee is contained within the Council's constitution.

Statement by Monitoring Officer

The Local Government Act 2000 stipulates that at least 25% of members on Standards Committees must be independent.

Statement by Director of Finance and E-Government

There are no financial implications contained within this report.

Human Resource IT/Land and Property Implications

There are no implications arising from this report

Wards/Area Boards affected

None

Scrutiny Panel's Interest

None

Consultations

The procedures adopted are those set out in Government Regulations.

Call-in

Not Applicable

Briefings

Executive Members/ Chair		Chief Executive	
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5.0 INTRODUCTION

5.1 The term of office of the three Independent Members of the Standards Committee expired in May 2003. Advertisements were placed in the local press seeking nominations for Independent Members. At its meeting on 9 April 2003, Council agreed that the number of Independent Members should increase from 3 to 4; that the three existing members continue in office beyond May 2003; and that arrangements be put in place for staggered terms of office.

5.2

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 Following the decision to increase the number of Independent Members of the Standards Committee from 3 to 4, interviews were held and Mr Aidan Loyns was appointed for a 4 year period.

6.2 The panel which made the appointment was also charged with the task of determining terms of office for the remaining three Independent Members and decided that this should be done on the basis of one year; two years and three years and that lots should be drawn at the Standards Committee to determine which Independent Member should serve for which period.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Arrangements will be made at the meeting for the drawing of lots as an equitable means of determining terms of office for the Independent Members.

Background documents:

Minutes of Council dated 9 April and 15 May 2002.

Guidance on standards committees issued by the Standards Board for England

For further information on the details of this report, please contact:

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