

Report to:	COUNCIL
Relevant Officer:	Mark Towers, Director of Governance and Regulatory Services
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Date of Meeting	21 September 2016

INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL APPOINTMENT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 In November 2015, Council appointed two additional members of the Independent Remuneration Panel to fill vacancies. This was following a recruitment process and after consultation with the two Group Leaders. One of those appointed has now stood down due to work related relocation. Council is asked to consider appointing a replacement member.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree to appoint Mr G Molyneux be appointed as an Independent Remuneration Panel member.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To fill vacancy on the Independent Remuneration Panel without delay due to the work currently being undertaken by that Panel.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To seek further advert.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The recommendations in this report meet all the Council's priorities.

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel was formed by the Council in 2001 and has a duty to provide the Council with recommendations on its scheme of members' allowances and amounts to be paid. One of the Independent Remuneration Panel members Mr H Evans has decided to stand down from the Panel as his workplace will change to Southport from Blackpool. The Panel has not had a reason to meet since that appointment, but is due to meet in the next few weeks to undertake the 12 month reviews requested by Council into the allowance paid to Independent Persons who support the standards process under the Localism Act and also the remuneration paid to non executive directors serving on Council companies.
- 5.2 The criteria of the type of person sought states that the applicant should have no formal political party affiliation, not be an employee of, or an elected member of Blackpool Council and not be currently a close friend/ relative of an elected member of Blackpool Council. Interviews were held in November 2015 with three individuals and all three were deemed appointable. Mr Evans and Mrs Hockenhill were both appointed by Council as they had previous experience of serving on Remuneration Panels for other Councils. The third interviewee Mr G Molyneux met all the criteria to be appointed, but as the other two had additional experience then he missed out at that point. Mr Molyneux runs his own business and is also a Board member of Healthwatch Blackpool.
- 5.3 Following notification of the vacancy this last month, consultation was undertaken with the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Conservative Group about appointing Mr Molyneux. Both supported the recommendation to appoint Mr Molyneux.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

List of Appendices: None

None.

6.0 Legal considerations:

- 6.1 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 set out the requirements for appointment to the Independent Remuneration Panel.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

- 7.1 There are no Human Resource considerations

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 There are no equalities considerations to this report.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 There are no financial considerations, other than the Panel members can claim reasonable expenses for attending meetings, which may be held.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 There are no risk management considerations other than not having sufficient members to serve on the Panel.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 There are no ethical considerations

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Consultation has taken place with the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Conservative Group regarding the appointment.

13.0 Background papers:

None.