

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting16th July 2020

1. Title of Item/Report

Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel

2. Record of the Decision

The report detailed a request for Council to consider proposals regarding the re-establishment of the Authority's Independent Remuneration Panel with the terms of office of the former Panel having expired on 31st May 2020.

Regulations required that a Panel of at least three members be established, however, the Council's Constitution stipulated that the Panel should comprise four members, with a quorum of 3. None of the Panel members must be serving elected Members of the authority in respect of which it makes recommendations, nor a member of a committee or sub-committee of such authority. Panel Members must also not be disqualified from being or becoming a member of an authority.

The three former members of the Panel, who's term of office had expired on 31st May 2020, had indicated a willingness to continue in their role. A fourth person had also been identified who, it is considered, would be suitable to sit on the Panel, going forward. Kate Hoskin, who had held senior positions in the Civil Service, had indicated her willingness to be considered for a position on the Panel. Details of each of the appellants for the role were submitted.

The functions of the Panel were also noted, and it was proposed that the terms of office of the Panel Members be up to 31 May 2024, unless they are removed, resign or otherwise leave office before then.

RECOMMENDED to Council that:-

1. The Independent Remuneration Panel be established comprising the persons specified at Appendix 1 to the report.

2. The terms of office of the Panel Members be for the period up to 31st May 2024.

3. The right is reserved to remove any one or more of the Panel members at any time as indicated in paragraph 12 of the report.

4. Tony Campbell be appointed as the Chair of the Panel.

5. The Panel's functions as detailed in the Council's Constitution, and detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, be noted.

6. The allowances for the Panel's work are as specified at paragraph 13 of the report.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Council is required by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) ("the Regulations") to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel so that the Panel can provide recommendations to Council on its Members' Allowances Scheme. An Authority is not able to introduce new or revised allowances schemes, without first having had regard to its Independent Panel's recommendations, in that respect. A Panel should therefore be in place and ready to act, even if an authority proposes not to change its existing allowance scheme.

Cabinet has a role in making recommendations, to Council, about the composition of the Panel and other related matters.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

N/A

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not Applicable- Council Decision

Proper Officer
20 July 2020