

CITY AND COUNTY OF CARDIFF DINAS A SIR CAERDYDD

STANDARDS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE:

25 JULY 2006

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AGENDA ITEM:

RETIREMENT OF INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS & NEW COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Reason for this Report

1. To formally advise the Committee on the expiry of the terms of office of 4 of the independent Committee members with effect from 27 July 2006, and the new composition of the Committee from this date further to the Council's appointment of 4 new independent members.

Background

2. As members are aware from reports and discussions at previous meetings, the terms of office of 4 of the current Independent Members of the Committee, namely, the Most Reverend Dr Barry Morgan, Archbishop of Wales/Bishop of Llandaff (Chairperson); David Hughes (Vice-Chairperson); Elaine Moore and Patricia Jenkins, are due to expire on 27 July 2006. (The sole current independent member whose term of office continues is Akmal Hanuk who was appointed to the Committee in November 2005 for a term of 4 years.)
3. The current Committee was established in October 2000 in fulfilment of new arrangements made under the Local Government Act 2000 for promoting ethical governance.
4. Members will also be aware that, following successful recruitment and selection processes undertaken on the instructions of the Committee by an Appointments Panel established for this purpose in accordance with the 2001 Regulations (the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001), 4 new independent Committee members, namely, Anne Morgan; Maureen Hedley-Clarke; Paul Stockton and Deidre Jones, have been appointed by the Council to take up position on the Committee when the current members step down, ie. with effect from 27 July 2006.

Issues

5. This meeting of the Committee is the final meeting of the current Committee, due to the expiry on 27 July 2006 of the terms of office of 4

of the independent Committee members. On the expiry of their terms of office, the retiring Committee members will have served terms of approximately 5 to 6 years on the first Standards and Ethics Committee of the Council. Members are invited to reflect upon the work and achievements of the Committee during its first term, and make any observations they consider appropriate in this regard.

6. The next meeting of the Committee will be the first meeting of the new Committee, following the appointment of the 4 new independent members with effect from 27 July 2006. The Committee is asked to note that the 2001 Regulations provide that:

‘(1)The members of a standards committee shall elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from amongst the independent members of that committee.

(2) The election of a chairperson and a vice-chairperson shall be the first business to be transacted at the first meeting of a standards committee.’

[Regulation 22]

7. The Committee may wish to give some consideration to the appropriate knowledge, experience and skills required to effectively discharge the roles of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, and make any relevant observations on this issue for the assistance of new Committee members. However, the Committee should bear in mind that the decision on the election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson must be made by the new Committee at its first meeting.

ADVICE

This report has been prepared by the Monitoring and Chief Legal & Democratic Services Officer. It contains all the information necessary to allow Members to arrive at a reasonable view, taking into account the advice contained in this section.

Legal Implications

The relevant legal provisions and the implications of these are contained within the body of this report.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee notes the content of this report and makes any observations or comments that it considers appropriate.

Kate Berry

Monitoring Officer and Chief Legal & Democratic Services Officer

18 July 2006

Background papers

Various reports and minutes on Appointment of New Independent Members 2005/06

Minutes of Council 22 June 2006

Minutes of Council 20 October 2005