

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

8.1 APPOINTMENT OF CABINET

Members are asked to note the appointment by the Leader of the Council of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet for 2019/2020 onwards as follows:

Position/Portfolio	Councillor
Deputy Leader and Education & Children's Services	Councillor Simmonds
Central Services, Culture and Heritage	Councillor Lewis
Finance, Property and Business Services	Councillor Bianco
Community, Commerce and Regeneration	Councillor D. Mills
Planning, Transportation and Recycling	Councillor Burrows
Social Services, Housing, Health and Wellbeing	Councillor Corthorne

8.2 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL CHAMPION

In accordance with Article 4 of the Constitution, Council is asked to consider the appointment of Members as Council Champions under the generic Terms of Reference approved by full Council on 29 June 2006, (revised February 2009) with additional guidance approved by the Leader of the Council to reflect specific responsibilities associated with their portfolios

At the Council on 10 May 2018 the following Champions, as recommended by the Leader of the Council, were appointed:

- Older Persons - the Leader of the Council
- Carers - Councillor Haggar

The Leader of the Council is now recommending the appointment of a Champion for Mental Health.

The Scheme of Members' Allowances includes provision for an allowance of £5,937.79 to be paid to each Champion and, in addition, each position carries a £5,000 budget.

RECOMMENDATION: That Councillor Tuckwell be appointed as Council Champion for Mental Health, as recommended by the Leader of the Council.

8.3 STANDARDS COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSON

Background

1. In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 (the Act), Council in July 2012 agreed the adoption of a new Code of Conduct for Hillingdon Members and co-opted members.
2. The Act requires the Council to have in place arrangements under which, firstly, complaints against Members and co-opted members can be investigated and,

secondly decisions on complaints can be made. As a part of that process, the Act envisaged a new role for an 'Independent Person'.

3. The Council is required to appoint at least one Independent Person. Although not a member of the Standards Committee, the Independent Person's views are to be sought and taken into account by the Committee when considering complaints about the conduct of a Member or co-opted member of the authority.

RECOMMENDATION: That Mr David Smith be re-appointed as Independent Person for a further three year period, to June 2022 and that, thereafter, the position be re-advertised.

Information

4. In May 2016 Council formally appointed Mr David Smith to the position of Standards Committee Independent Person for a second 3 year period to July 2019.
5. On 11 March 2019 the Standards Committee considered options for the appointment of an Independent Person for the ensuing three year period. The Committee noted that, since the new Code was adopted, there had only been one complaint about a Member which reached the stage of formal consideration by the Standards Committee thereby requiring Mr Smith's involvement.
6. The Committee considered that Mr Smith remained a suitable person to continue in his role of Independent Person and therefore resolved to recommend to Council that he should be re-appointed.
7. However, the Committee noted that this would be Mr Smith's third term in the position and, therefore, resolved to recommend to Council that the position should be re-advertised publicly in 2022.
8. Mr Smith is a retired solicitor and is also involved with a leading animal welfare charity. Mr Smith has indicated his willingness to continue in his role and this option would obviously negate the time and expense of re-advertising and interviewing for the position.
9. The position carries a Special Responsibility Allowance of £1,629.99p.a.

Financial Implications

10. If the recommendation is approved the Council will not incur any additional expenditure associated with the appointment of this role.

Legal Implications

11. Section 28[8] of The Localism Act 2011 prescribes the procedure that a local authority must follow if it wishes to appoint one or more Independent Persons in relation to its Standards regime. The position has to be advertised to the general public and an interview process has to be conducted once expressions

of interest have been received - any appointments have to be ratified by full Council.

12. There is nothing in the Act which prohibits the extension of Mr Smith's appointment as an Independent Person

Background Papers: None