



## **Appointment of Independent Person**

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**Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive**

**Mike Barker, Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. Council is asked to approve the appointment of an Independent Person for standards of conduct issues affecting Council and Parish Council Members pursuant to s.28(7) Localism Act 2011.

### **BACKGROUND**

2. Following the implementation of the Localism Act 2011, on 19 July 2012 Council appointed Anthony Atkinson as its Independent Person for standards of conduct issues affecting Council and Parish Council Members for a three year period. Council subsequently agreed to extend this appointment for a further two years. As Mr Atkinson's term of office was due to expire a recruitment process was undertaken and he was recommended for re-appointment. A further four year term was approved by Council on 21 September 2017.
3. Following the end of Mr Atkinson's final term as Independent Person, the required recruitment process was commenced.
4. A Panel consisting of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee, together with the Deputy Monitoring Officer (Service Director Legal & Democratic Services) and the Governance Service Manager carried out the interview process for this position on 10 July 2023.
5. Following a successful interview, the Panel identified Dr Stuart Green as the most suitable person for the Independent Person position.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

6. Council is recommended to approve:
  - (i) The appointment of Dr Stuart Green as the Independent Person for standards of conduct issues for a period of three years.