

CYNGOR SIR YNYS MON / ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
COMMITTEE:	Standards Committee Selection Panel
DATE:	6 June 2023
REPORT TITLE:	Recruitment of a new independent member to the Standards Committee
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:	To agree the requirements of the person specification and application form
REPORT BY:	Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer
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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Standards Committee Selection Panel is required to decide the criteria for the new independent member to be appointed to the County Council's Standards Committee.
- 1.2 Following the advertising process, the Selection Panel will score the applications received against the criteria, after which it will interview the short listed candidates and make any recommendations for appointment to the County Council. The appointment will be confirmed by the County Council.

2. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 The statutory minimum for the role of an independent member of the Standards Committee is set out in **Enclosure 1** of this report
- 2.2 Any applicant must be able to satisfy these requirements in order to be considered

3. ANY ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 Additional requirements (also called local choice criteria) may also be applied. These may include skills or attributes that are considered advantageous, ensuring the best and most suitable candidates are appointed.
- 3.2 Examples of local choice criteria are included in **Enclosure 2** to this report.

4. CRITERIA FOR THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS IN 2017 AND 2019

4.1 The statutory requirements were the only criteria set down in the 2019 recruitment process to fill four empty seats on the Standards Committee. 12 applications were received.

4.2 However, in 2017, in addition to the statutory requirements, local choice criteria were also requested. The number of applications received was low and as a result of this, the Panel decided not to apply any local choice criteria in 2019.

5. RECOMMENDATION

5.1 The Panel to agree what local choice criteria it wishes to include (if any) in addition to the legislative requirements for the recruitment of the new independent member to the Standards Committee.

Legislative Criteria: The Minimum Requirements-

- A person cannot be an independent member if they are, in relation to:
 - the Isle of Anglesey County Council
 - a current or former county councillor
 - a current or former employee
 - the spouse/partner of:
 - a councillor
 - an employee
 - any other county council, county borough council, national park authority or fire and rescue authority
 - a current councillor
 - a current employee
 - the spouse/partner of:
 - a councillor
 - an employee
 - if the applicant ceased to be a councillor or employee more than 12 months ago [starting on the date the applicant ceased to be a councillor/employee], they may apply
 - any community council
 - a current councillor
 - a current employee
 - the spouse/partner of:
 - a councillor
 - an employee
- Is not precluded from holding office under section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972:
 - Subject to an undischarged bankruptcy order;
 - With a criminal conviction within the last 5 years where a sentence of imprisonment was passed (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months
- Is not disqualified from being a member of a council under Part III of the Representation of the People Act 1983

Local Choice Criteria / Skills which may be considered advantageous:

Examples include -

- Can demonstrate the following qualities and skills:
 - Listening skills
 - Ability to understand and weigh up evidence
 - Independence of mind
 - Impartiality
 - Ability to come to an objective view and explain that view by reference to the evidence
 - Team working skills
 - Respect for others and an understanding of diversity issues
 - Discretion
 - Personal integrity
 - Does not actively participate in local or national politics

- A detailed knowledge of local government is not necessary although may be an advantage if potential candidates were interested in matters relating to public life and services.

- Independent members should be:
 - Well respected in the community
 - Able to meet the time commitments involved

- Independent members should have basic ICT skills including being able to use a laptop/ i-pad to access emails and join meetings virtually using platforms such as Teams or Zoom