

**Agenda Item No.17 (iii)****DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****5<sup>th</sup> December 2012****Report of the Director of Legal Services****Appointment of Independent Persons to the Standards Committee****1. Purpose of the report**

To approve the appointment of three Independent Persons to assist with the arrangements for maintaining high standards of conduct by Members.

**2. Information and Analysis**

At its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> June, the Council authorised the Chief Executive, the Director of Legal Services and the Director of Human Resources to commence the process of recruitment of three Independent Persons for appointment to the Standards Committee. The recruitment process has now been undertaken and satisfactory references have been obtained in respect of each candidate. Therefore, it is recommended that the Council appoints Mr Peter Smith, Mr Lloyd Newby and Mr Keith Jackson-Horner as Independent Persons.

The role of an Independent Person is to assist the Standards Committee in maintaining the high ethical standards of Councillors and to be consulted, as appropriate, by the Monitoring Officer and the Standards Committee in considering allegations made against Members. An Independent Person can also be consulted by Members against whom complaints have been made.

It is proposed that each Independent Person should be paid an allowance of £125 per session for attendance at meetings, hearings or training events.

**3. Legal Considerations**

Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 requires the appointment of Independent Persons for the purpose described above.

**4. Other considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors have also been considered: financial, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations

**5. Background papers**

File held by the Director of Legal Services

**6. Officer Recommendations**

That the Council appoints of Mr Peter Smith, Mr Lloyd Newby and Mr Keith Jackson-Horner as Independent Persons to the Standards Committee.

**John McElvaney  
Director of Legal Services**