



**OPEN REPORT  
COUNCIL**

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**Council – 24 November 2022**

**INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL – APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL MEMBER**

**Report of Director of Corporate and Customer Services**

**Report Author and Contact Details**

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**Wards Affected**

District-wide

**Report Summary**

This report recommends the appointment of an additional person as a member of the Independent Remuneration Panel to review Members' Allowances for a four year period.

**Recommendations**

1. That Mr Barry Mellor is formally appointed as a member of the Independent Remuneration with a four year term of office ending in November 2026.

**List of Appendices**

None

**Background Papers**

Report to Council – Review of Members' Allowances Scheme (26 May 2022)  
Report to Council – Appointment of Independent Person and Additional Members of Independent Remuneration Panel (29 September 2022)

**Consideration of report by Council or other committee**

No

**Council Approval Required**

Yes

**Exempt from Press or Public**

No

## **Independent Remuneration Panel – Appointment of Additional Member**

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Section 99 of the Local Government Act 2000 makes provision in relation to allowances for Members of local authorities. Regulations made under this Section require local authorities to establish and maintain a panel to make recommendations about the Scheme. The Panel last met in 2016 and is due to conduct a full review of Members Allowances to report back to the Council shortly.

### **2. Key Issues**

- 2.1 Members will recall that the Council appointed Dr Declan Hall to lead and chair the Independent Remuneration Panel for a period up to May 2023. At the same meeting, the Council extended the term of office for Mr. David Willis to May 2026. Mrs Susan Whitfield was previously appointed with her term of office due to cease in October 2023.
- 2.2 On 29 September 2022 the Council appointed Mrs Jackie Batchelor to serve on the Independent Remuneration Panel for a four year period until 30 September 2026.
- 2.3 With Dr. Hall and Mrs Whitfield scheduled to cease being members of the Independent Remuneration Panel in May and October 2023 respectively, there is a need to appoint a further individual to the Panel to ensure that it remains legally constituted in accordance with statutory regulations.
- 2.4 Following the conclusion of a recruitment process, it is recommended that Mr. Barry Mellor be appointed as a member of the Independent Remuneration Panel for a four year period until 30 November 2026. Mr. Mellor has a strong background in marketing, information technology, communications and commercial strategy at senior director and chief executive level.

### **3. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal**

- 3.1 Consideration was given to not recruiting presently and waiting until 2023 when Dr. Hall and Mrs Whitfield's terms of office are due to expire. However as a full review of the Members Allowances Scheme is due to take place imminently, it was considered timely to make an appointment to give experience to another Panel Member who will be in office for a longer period. In addition this provides more resilience in case of panel Members not being available to respond to urgent requests.
- 3.2 The appointment of Mr. Barry Mellor as a member of the Independent Remuneration Panel until November 2026 is the recommended proposal.

### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1 The Chair of the Governance and Resources Committee, Councillor Tom Donnelly, was involved in the interview process and has indicated his support for the recommended appointment.

## **5. Timetable for Implementation**

- 5.1 Subject to the Council's approval, the appointment will take immediate effect and Mr's Mellor's term of office will continue until November 2026.

## **6. Policy Implications**

- 6.1 There are no specific policy implications associated with this report but the proposed appointment to the Independent Remuneration Panel will contribute to independence and transparency in considering remuneration for elected representatives. In this sense, this proposal underpins all of the Council's corporate priorities.

## **7. Financial and Resource Implications**

- 7.1 Members of the Panel are entitled to an allowance whilst undertaking work as members of the IRP. The cost can be met from existing budgets, therefore the financial risk is low.

## **8. Legal Advice and Implications**

- 8.1 The scheme of Member's Allowances is made in accordance with section 99 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authority (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. The proposal contained in this report complies with the requirements of the legislation so the legal risk is considered to be low.

## **9. Equalities Implications**

- 9.1 Public authorities are required to have due regard to the aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010) when making decisions and setting policies. While there are no specific equalities implications arising from this report, the recruitment process has sought to find a variety of candidates that whilst meeting the profile, offer a variety of different backgrounds and experiences.

## **10. Climate Change Implications**

- 10.1 Whilst an impact assessment has not been undertaken, it is considered that there are no climate change implications associated with this report.

## **11. Risk Management**

- 11.1 This report seeks to address a future risk of having insufficient members of the Independent Remuneration Panel. The recommended individual has been assessed meeting the knowledge, skills and behaviours expected of such a position. It is therefore considered that the risks associated with this proposal are low.

### **Report Authorisation**

Approvals obtained from:-

	<b>Named Officer</b>	<b>Date</b>
Chief Executive	Paul Wilson	16/11/2022
Director of Resources/ S.151 Officer (or Financial Services Manager)	Karen Henriksen	16/11/2022
Monitoring Officer (or Legal Services Manager)	James McLaughlin	16/11/2022