

# Agenda Item 14.

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel Members</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	The Special Council Executive Committee on 28 November 2019
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	Andrew Moulton, Assistant Director Governance

## **OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

To ensure transparency, openness and scrutiny of the Members' scheme of allowances and enable Wokingham Borough Council to fulfil its statutory obligation to review the remuneration paid to its elected Members.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Special Council Executive Committee is recommended to appoint:

- 1) David Harwood and Angela Slade to the Independent Remuneration Panel for a period of 4 years, commencing on 29 November 2019;
- 2) Diana Anderson, Robert Nancarrow and Ian Newlove to the Independent Remuneration Panel for a period of 3 years, commencing on 29 November 2019.

## **SUMMARY OF REPORT**

Following the submission of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) report to Council on 22 November 2018 the IRP resigned en masse; which has resulted in vacancies on the panel.

This report advises the Special Council Executive Committee that following a recent recruitment process, it is recommended that Diana Anderson, David Harwood, Ian Newlove, Robert Nancarrow and Angela Slade be appointed to the Independent Remuneration Panel.

## Background

1. Section 18 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as amended by section 99 of the Local Government Act 2000, makes provision in relation to basic, special responsibility, childcare and dependents' carers' allowances for Members of local authorities. The Secretary of State makes regulations under this section requiring local authorities to make a scheme of allowances for their Members and to establish and maintain a panel to make recommendations to the Council about the scheme.
2. Section 100 of Local Government Act 2000 allows the Secretary of State to make provision in relation to travel and subsistence allowance for Members of local authorities and an allowance for non-Councillors who are members of a Council's committee or sub-committee. This includes the amendment or repeal of provisions of sections 173 to 178 of the Local Government Act 1972.
3. The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 have been made under these provisions. The Regulations provide that it is for each local authority to decide its scheme and the amounts to be paid under that scheme.
4. Councils are required to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel which will broadly have the functions of providing the local authority with advice on its scheme and the amounts to be paid as allowances where relevant. Local authorities must have regard to this advice.
5. In November 2018, all of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel members resigned. The Council was therefore required to appoint a new Independent Remuneration Panel.
6. Following a recruitment process, carried out in accordance with the Constitution, members of the public came forward and following interviews with the Monitoring Officer and the Lead Specialist Democratic and Electoral Services, it was recommended that the following be appointed to serve on the panel:

**Diana Anderson** is married and has lived in Crowthorne (Wokingham Without) for 37 years and has strong connections with Wokingham. Both her children now live there; her daughter attended The Holt School and her granddaughter has just started Year 1 at Walter Infant School. Before retiring Diana was Campus Administrator for 25 years at Imperial College's postgraduate campus at Silwood Park, Ascot, looking after both staff and students. She has been Clerk to the Local Advisors (Governors) at St Crispin's School for nearly six years and for the last 15 years has been an independent member - and now Chair - of Wokingham's School Admission Appeals Panels. More recently she is a member - and Chair - of Wokingham's Independent Review Panels for School Exclusions.

**David Harwood** has been living in the Wokingham Borough for fifteen years having moved to Twyford in 2004. He is married with a teenage daughter. He has been working as a company secretary for the past 11 years and previously worked in financial control in the retail and financial services sector.

**Robert Nancarrow** has lived in Remenham beginning in 1991. At that time and until retirement in 2010 he was Principal Lecturer in Management Accounting at the University of West London, Ealing. He was for several years treasurer of the local branch of NATFHE, the lecturers union. Educated at King Edward V1 School, Bath and the University of Hertfordshire, he achieved a BA in Business Studies. He trained as an Accountant with Deloitte, London and was a Company Secretarial Professional with Allied Domecq, Bristol. He is qualified as a Chartered Secretary and also a Chartered Management Accountant. He was Branch President of the Berkshire Branch of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, 1994/5 and 1995/6. He also has a teaching certificate from the University of Roehampton, London. He keeps physically fit by swimming a kilometre almost daily at the Henley Leisure Centre pool.

**Ian Newlove** has lived in Crowthorne (Wokingham Without) since 1973. He is married with two grown up daughters who also live in Crowthorne. He is an independent Member and Chairs Education Appeals Panels for Wokingham, Reading and Bracknell since around 2001. Prior to retiring he worked for a major food retailer based in Bracknell for 28 years. His role within the company at various times involved heading the Internal Audit function and also other Financial roles including systems and procedures. He was also a member of a Patient Participation Group in Crowthorne.

**Angela Slade** has lived in Wokingham since 1980. After graduation from the University of St Andrews, her career, mostly in the field of Procurement was with Unilever, 3M and Smithkline Beecham (now Glaxo Smithkline). This final position involved responsibility for a portfolio valued at £13 million. Fortunately made redundant before her 40th Birthday, she was able to set up her own business and has remained self-employed for the last 25 years. Angela has 5 years as a contributing guest on BBC Radio Oxford's live phone-in on the Sunday Gardening programme. She now advises on an ad hoc basis on BBC Radio Berkshire when the resident gardener, Colin Evans, is unavailable.

7. Following a review by Constitution Review Working Group, it was agreed by Council that IRP reviews would move from being carried out annually to biennially. Therefore a review will be carried out in calendar year 2020, with the next review scheduled for calendar year 2022

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

*The Council continues to face severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of reductions to public sector funding and growing pressures in our statutory services. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.*

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	£0	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	£0	Yes	Revenue
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	£0	Yes	Revenue

### Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

Expenses for panellists will be met from the Democratic Services' Budget. There are no additional financial implications related to this report.

### Cross-Council Implications

There are no cross-Council implications related to this report.

### Public Sector Equality Duty

Due regard has been given to statutory duties required under the Equality Act.

Advertisements were made both in print and digitally, with advice given over the phone and by email to prospective candidates.

### List of Background Papers

- 1) Sections 173 to 178 of the Local Government Act 1972
- 2) Section 18 of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 (as amended by section 99 of the Local Government Act 2000)
- 3) Section 100 of the Local Government Act 2000
- 4) Part 3 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003
- 5) Regulation 26 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014

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