

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

21 MAY 2019

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To consider the appointments of Paul Cox and Sarah Britton as Independent Persons to Newark & Sherwood District Council pursuant to section 28 (8) (c) (iii) of the Localism Act 2011.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The Council is required, pursuant to Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011, to appoint at least one Independent Person.

2.2 The Monitoring Officer is required to undertake the initial assessment of Code of Conduct complaints in consultation with an Independent Person. In addition the Council's Independent Panel, which will offer the Council advice, views or recommendations on any proposal for the dismissal of a statutory officer, has two Independent Persons as members.

2.3 The appointments of the two current Independent Persons, Richard Dix and Sharon Jones were agreed by the Council on 19 June 2012, and further agreed at the 8 March 2018 Council until the Annual Meeting to be held in May 2019.

2.4 Advertisements for the role of the Independent Persons were placed on Jobs Go Public and the Council's website. Seven applications were received and three selected for interviews which were held on Monday 18 March 2019. The interview panel comprised of the Monitoring Officer, Deputy Monitoring Officer, Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Major Opposition Group.

2.5 Following the interview process the panel unanimously recommended the appointment of Paul Cox and Sarah Britton as the Council's two independent Persons. Suitable references have now been received for both applicants.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that:

- a) **the Council approve the appointments of Paul Cox and Sarah Britton as Independent Persons to Newark & Sherwood District Council pursuant to Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011, with immediate effect for a four year term until May 2023; and**
- b) **a letter of thanks be sent to the retiring Independent Persons, Richard Dix and Sharon Jones.**

Background Papers

Nil.

For further information please contact Karen White on Ext. 5210.

Karen White

Monitoring Officer and Director of Governance & Organisational Development