



## CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE – 7 SEPTEMBER 2009

### APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

#### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

##### Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval of the proposed timetable for the appointment of independent members to the Standards Committee.

##### Background

2. The terms of reference of the Constitution Committee include the function of advertising and interviewing suitable people for recommendation to the County Council for appointment as an independent member of the Standards Committee.
3. The Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 require that at least 25% of members of a Standards Committee must be independent members. The County Council appoints five elected members to the Standards Committee and therefore two independent members are required. The Chairman of the Standards Committee must always be an independent member.
4. The appointment of the current independent members of the Standards Committee expires on 30 November 2009 and it is a requirement that the appointments be advertised. Existing members may reapply. In order that the new appointments can be put to the County Council for approval on 2 December 2009, the following timetable is proposed:

MIS to members attaching copy of advertisement	15 September
Advertisement	by 18 September
Closing date for applications	9 October
Shorlisting by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of this Committee	Week beginning 19 October

Letter to invite candidates for interview	by 26 October
Interviews to be conducted by this Committee	13 November
County Council meeting	2 December

### **Recommendation**

5. That the proposed timetable for the appointment of independent members to the Standards Committee be approved.

### **Circulation under Local Issues Alert Procedure**

None

### **Background Papers**

Report to the Constitution Committee on 26 September 2001 on New Ethical Framework Regulations and Appointment of Independent Members to Standards Committee.

The Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008.

### **Officer to Contact**

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### **Equal Opportunities Implications**

The appointments will be open to all people who are not or who have not recently been members or officers of the County Council or other relevant authorities, or a relative or close friend of such a person.