


Agenda Item No:	7	
Committee:	Conduct Committee	
Date:	3rd July 2019	
Report Title:	Appointment of Independent Person	

1. Purpose / Summary

The Council must appoint an Independent Person to assist the Conduct Committee in determining Member Conduct complaints as set out within the Localism Act 2011.

2. Key issues

The Council has a vacancy for the position of Independent Person since Tina Gambell resigned from her position. The Deputy Independent Person, Claire Hawden-Beal has supported the Council during the period in which we have carried a vacancy.

The Council advertised the position of Independent Person on the Council's website, in the local press and in a recruitment supplement. We received a total of 6 applications for the role.

Independent persons must not during the previous 5 years have been a member or officer of Fenland District Council or be a close friend of either a member or officer of Fenland District Council.

Following review of the application form and an interview, the interview panel consisting of the Chairman of Conduct Committee, Monitoring Officer and Deputy Monitoring Officer unanimously agreed Stuart Webster would be the panel's recommendation to Conduct Committee and Council.

Stuart Webster is a newly retired Police Officer from the Metropolitan Police Service following 30 years' service within which he has held a range of different roles. Following his retirement, Stuart is keen to continue to serve the community and utilise his skills from within his previous roles. Stuart displayed the required skills and aptitude as set out within the person specification for the role and is recommended to be appointed by Members to undergo an induction and training.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Conduct Committee recommends to Council on 18 July 2019 to appoint Stuart Webster as the Council's Independent Person.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	N/A
Portfolio Holder(s)	
Report Originator(s)	Carol Pilson, Monitoring Officer Amy Brown, Deputy Monitoring Officer
Contact Officer(s)	Carol Pilson, Monitoring Officer
Background Paper(s)	