



AGENDA ITEM: 9

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE
22 JULY 2013**

Report of: Managing Director (People and Places) and Borough Solicitor

**Contact for further information: Mrs C A Jackson (Extn. 5016)
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SUBJECT: INDEPENDENT PERSON – PROTOCOL

Wards affected: Borough wide.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To agree an Independent Person Protocol.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Independent Person Protocol, attached at Appendix 1, be endorsed.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The statutory role of the Independent Person appointed under Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 is to assist the Council to discharge its duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct amongst Members and Co-opted Members both of the Borough Council and those Parish Councils within the Borough.

3.2 The protocol, attached at Appendix 1, has been established to clarify how the Independent Person will fulfil this role.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS/COMMUNITY STRATEGY

4.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with the report. Promoting and maintaining high ethical Standards contributes to achievement of the Community Strategy.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 There are no risks to the Council's business objectives associated with the Protocol.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees and / or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Independent Person Protocol