



AGENDA ITEM: 10

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE
17 SEPTEMBER 2015**

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: ANNUAL REVIEW OF INDEPENDENT PERSON PROTOCOL

Wards affected: Borough wide.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To review the Independent Person Protocol.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

2.2 That the thanks of the Committee to the Independent Person (IP), and Reserve Independent Person (RIP), be recorded.

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, (Constitution 16.5) was endorsed by this Committee at its meeting in on 22 July 2013. The Protocol was reviewed at a meeting of the Committee held on 18 September 2014. No changes were proposed and the Protocol, as currently drafted, deals with matters appropriately.

3.3 The Independent Person (IP) and Reserve Independent Person (RIP) subsequently indicated their acceptance of the Protocol by signing a copy before the Monitoring Officer.

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 significant 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.

Appendix

Appendix 1 - Independent Person Protocol