

**NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SHADOW AUTHORITY****SHADOW AUTHORITY MEETING****25<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Appointment of Independent Persons</b>
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**1. Purpose of Report**

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- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to appoint Independent Persons for North Northamptonshire Council.

**2. Executive Summary**

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- 2.1 Under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011, local authorities are required to put certain arrangements in place for promoting and maintaining standards of conduct including provision for the appointment by the authority of at least one Independent Person. This report seeks to appoint a number of Independent Persons to North Northamptonshire Council, in accordance with those requirements.

**2. Recommendations**

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- 2.1. It is recommended that the Shadow Authority:

Appoints the persons named below as Independent Persons for North Northamptonshire Council:

Mike Sawford  
Vivienne Barnard  
Dean Smith.

- 2.2 *(Reasons for Recommendations – To promote high standards of conduct and to comply with legislative requirements,)*
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### **3. Report Background**

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- 3.1 Under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011, local authorities are required to put certain arrangements in place for promoting and maintaining standards of conduct including provision for the appointment by the authority of at least one Independent Person:
- a) whose views are to be sought, and taken into account, by the authority before it makes its decision on an allegation that it has decided to investigate, and
  - b) whose views may be sought:
    - i. by the authority in relation to an allegation in circumstances not within paragraph (a);
    - ii. by a member or co-opted member of the authority if that person's behaviour is the subject of an allegation, and
    - iii. by a member or co-opted member of a parish council if that person's behaviour is the subject of an allegation and the authority is the parish council's principal authority.
- 3.2 Such appointments are to be made by the full Council.

### **4. Issues and Choices**

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- 4.1 Given the need to have at least one Independent Person in place for North Northamptonshire Council on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, the Independent Persons currently appointed by the sovereign councils were approached to determine whether they were willing to be appointed as an Independent Person for North Northamptonshire Council. The benefit of this is that they have previously been through a selection process and are experienced.
- 4.2 Also, having a large unitary council and a large number of parish and town councils, it is felt prudent to have more than one Independent Person to draw on.
- 4.3 The persons proposed have confirmed that they are willing to be appointed as Independent Persons for North Northamptonshire Council with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.
- 4.4 The persons proposed are:
- Mike Sawford  
Vivienne Barnard  
Dean Smith.
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## **5. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **5.1 Resources and Financial**

5.1.1 The Independent Persons will be paid an allowance as proposed by the Independent Remuneration Panel and approved by full Council.

### **5.2 Legal**

5.2.1 The recommendation fulfils the legal requirement under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 to appoint at least one independent person.

### **5.3 Risk**

5.3.1 There are no significant risks arising from the proposed recommendations in this report.

### **5.4 Consultation**

5.4.1 None required.

### **5.5 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny**

5.5.1 None.

### **5.6 Equality Impacts**

5.6.1 There are no discernable equality impacts arising from this report.

### **5.7 Climate Impact**

5.7.1 There are no climate impacts arising from this report.

### **5.8 Community Impact**

5.8.1 There are no community impacts arising from this report.

## **6. Background Papers**

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6.1 Localism Act 2011