

# Taunton Deane Borough Council

## Report of the Monitoring Officer to Full Council – 17 February 2009

### Recruitment of Independent Members to Taunton Deane Borough Council's Standards Committee

There has, for a little while, been three vacancies for Independent Members on the Council's Standards Committee. Following public advertisement and circulation of details to as many voluntary and community organisations as possible, six candidates were interviewed for the vacancies.

The interviews were carried out by Anne Elder, Chairman of our Standards Committee, Councillor Jean Allgrove the Conservative representative on the Committee, Tonya Meers the Council's Monitoring Officer and Richard Bryant, Democratic Services Manager.

From the six candidates, three were provisionally invited to join the Standards Committee as Independent Members. The three are:-

- Alan Cottrell, a retired Head Teacher;
- Peter Malim OBE, a retired senior officer from the UK Hydrographic Office; and
- Robert Symons, a former Local Government Chief Executive and a United Nations Municipal Representative – now also retired.

The interviewing group think that these three candidates would be valuable additions to the Standards Committee and recommend that they be appointed. Details have also previously been circulated to Group Leaders and they have raised no objection to their appointment.

In order to comply with the terms of the Council's Constitution these appointments have to be formally made by Council.

It is therefore **recommended** that Alan Cottrell, Peter Malim and Robert Symons all be appointed as Independent Members of the Council's Standards Committee.

Tonya Meers  
Monitoring Officer