

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	COUNCIL	20 JULY 2020	11

STANDARDS FRAMEWORK: INDEPENDENT PERSONS

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is to consider the re-appointment of the council's two Independent Person as part of the standards process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Council expresses its condolences in respect of Mr Tony Mozley, former Independent Person and pays tribute to his dedication to the role over the previous years.
2. That Mrs Helen Broughton and Mr Brian Horrocks, the council's statutory Independent Persons pursuant to Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011, be appointed for a further 12 months from 30 September 2020 to 30 September 2021.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The council's independent persons were previously reappointed until 30 September 2020, pending the Government's response to the recommendations of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, which were published in January 2019.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	√
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	√
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	√
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	√
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	√

REPORT

1. Members will be aware that Mr Tony Mozley, one of the council's independent persons, sadly died in May. The role of Independent Person is required in law as part of the standards process in dealing with allegations of member misconduct.
2. The term of office for the current two independent persons is due to expire in September 2020. The Committee on Standards in Public Life report on ethical standards in local government was published in January 2019 and recommended significant reform to the standards machinery in local government. The Government has not yet responded to the recommendations. Council is therefore asked to extend the appointment of the existing independent persons until 30 September 2021 so that their expertise in standards matters is retained pending any changes to the legislation.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	No implications
Legal	Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011 states the requirement to appoint at least one Independent Person for standards matters
Community Safety	No implications
Human Rights and Equalities	No implications
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	No implications
Health & Safety and Risk Management	No implications

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
None		