

## **Independent Panel Terms of Reference**

### **Membership**

At least three of the Independent Persons appointed by the Council under section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011 or, where there are fewer than two such persons, such independent persons as have been appointed by another authority or authorities as the Council considers appropriate. The Monitoring Officer, the Head of Paid Service or the Deputy Monitoring Officer where it is inappropriate for the Monitoring Officer to do so because of a conflict, shall invite the Independent Persons, as necessary/appropriate.

The Panel will be appointed from those Independent Persons who have accepted an invitation to be considered for appointment, in accordance with the following priority order:

- an Independent Person who has been appointed by the authority and who is a local government elector in the Council's area;
- any other Independent Person who has been appointed by the authority;
- an Independent Person who has been appointed by another authority or authorities.

### **Functions**

1. To carry out the function of 'the Panel' referred to in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 (as amended) and advise the Council on matters relating to the dismissal of relevant officers (including those officers that the statutory procedure has been extended to in the exercise of the Council's discretion).
2. Accordingly, the Panel must consider any recommendation to dismiss a relevant officer before such recommendation is considered by Council. The Panel may give advice, express its views and make its own recommendations before Council meets to consider whether or not to approve a proposal to dismiss a relevant officer.

### **Quorum**

The Independent Panel cannot meet to carry out its function unless at least two Independent Persons are in attendance.

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