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## **ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

To: **Council – 9 October 2008**

Main Portfolio Area: **Improvement and Performance**

By: **Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All Wards**

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**Summary:** **To comply with the decision of Council on 8 May 2008 that there should be four Independent Members for the Standards Committee, and to note the third Parish Member of the Committee.**

### **For Decision**

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#### **1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 At the Council Meeting on 8 May 2008 it was agreed to increase the number of Independent Members of the Standards Committee from three to four.
- 1.2 Council also agreed to increase the number of Parish Council Members of the Standards Committee from two to three. It was agreed that Town/Parish Council nominations may be made by the Thanet Association of Parish Councils. Parish Councillor Roy Wade has been appointed as the third Parish Council Member of the Standards Committee.
- 1.3 The Standards Committee Appointments Working Party met on 7 August 2008 to appoint a fourth Independent Member of the Standards Committee and recommended that Mrs Linda Frampton be appointed.

#### **2.0 Options**

- 2.1 Council has the option to approve the appointment of Mrs Frampton as the new fourth Independent Member of the Standards Committee, or not to approve the appointment.
- 2.2 It is not a requirement for Council to approve the appointment of Parish Councillor Wade as the decision has been delegated to the Thanet Association of Parish Councils.

#### **3.0 Corporate Implications**

##### **3.1 Financial**

- 3.1.1 The costs of allowances in respect of the fourth Independent Member of the Committee have already been included in the Council's budget.

##### **3.2 Legal**

- 3.2.1 Council must approve the appointment before Mrs Frampton may fulfil her duties as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee.

### **3.3 Corporate**

3.3.1 Recent guidance issued by the Standards Board for England suggests that Standards Committees should have three Parish Members (in an area which has Parishes). The appointment of a fourth Independent Member will help the Standards Committee when appointing Independent Members to serve on the Committee's Sub Committees dealing with individual complaints.

### **3.4 Equity and Equalities**

3.4.1 None.

### **4.0 Recommendation(s)**

4.1 Council approve the recommendation of the Standards Committee Appointments Working Party to appoint Mrs Frampton as the fourth Independent Member of the Standards Committee and that her period of office will be for two years.

4.2 Council note the appointment of Parish Councillor Wade as the third Parish Council Member of the Standards Committee.

### **5.0 Decision Making Process**

5.1 Council is the decision making body in the appointment of Independent Members of the Standards Committee.

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Reporting to:	Glenn Back, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

### **List of Annexes**

None.

### **Background Papers**

None.