

## **Appointment of an Independent Person**

LDS/188

Head of Governance People and Performance  
as the Council's Monitoring Officer

The Committee of Standards in Public Life (CSPL), recommends that local authorities appoint an Independent Person(s) for a term of office of two years. Currently the Council has only two Independent Persons, Mr Russell Brown whose term ends in July 2023 and Mr Peter Nicolson whose term ends in July 2022.

At the Full Council meeting in July 2021 it was agreed to ensure continuity of the role by preventing both Independent Persons' positions from becoming vacant at the same time and appointments to be scheduled for renewal in alternate years.

The Monitoring Officer has spoken to Mr Nicolson and has indicated that he would be willing to serve a further term in the role, as such this is the proposal the Monitoring Officer is putting forward for Full Council's consideration

Should the Full Council not wish to re-appoint Mr Nicolson, there would be two options, one being to request that the Monitoring Officer go out to advert for a further Independent Person, with a proposed candidate being put before the Full Council at its October 2022 meeting for their consideration. The other would be the Council only retain one Independent Person, Mr Brown.

### **RECOMMENDATION 5**

It is therefore recommended that Mr Nicolson be appointed for a further two years until July 2024.