

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**INDEPENDENT PERSONS REGIONAL WORKSHOPS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the attendance of one Independent Person at the Independent Persons Regional Workshop

Information and Advice

2. The Localism Act 2011 introduces new arrangements for investigating complaints concerning allegations about members' conduct. As part of the new arrangements Full Council approved the appointment of three Independent Persons at its September meeting.
3. The Council is required to consult the Independent Person before it takes a decision about a complaint against a member who is alleged to have breached the Councillor Code of Conduct. The Independent Person may also be consulted by the member who is subject to investigation.
4. An independent training provider is running a number of Independent Persons Regional Workshops which are designed to provide Independent Persons with an introduction to their new role and the opportunity to discuss how the role might develop. These workshops are seen as a valuable opportunity in which to provide the Independent Person with an initial insight into what is expected of them in this new role.
5. It is proposed that one of the Independent Persons appointed by the Council attends the event. An officer from Legal Services will also be attending. The event will cost £95 plus VAT per delegate. The workshop will be held in Lincoln on 18 October 2012.

Other Options Considered

6. The Committee could decide not to invite the Independent Person to attend but this would mean forgoing many of the advantages of attending the workshop.
7. The Committee could invite all Independent Persons to attend the workshop however this would be an additional cost to the Council and it is expected that the other Independent Persons will receive a briefing in order to update them about the relevant issues discussed at the workshop.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. To ensure that the Independent Person has the opportunity to receive practical training and has the chance to discuss the role with other delegates attending the workshop.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) To approve the attendance of the Independent Person at the Independent Persons Regional Workshop together with any reasonable travel expenses associated with the Independent Person's attendance at the event.

Jayne Francis-Ward
Monitoring Officer

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (SLB 24/09/2012)

10. Administration Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (MB 21/09/12)

11. The cost can be met from the 2012/13 budget for Members Services.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

The County Council report of 20 September 2012 is published on the Council's website:

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/DMS/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=AHDmMw7v8tDc1BoZj3nJNFYbZr6MnnSnO2WtRNbBRVkw1jQTTNjPQ%3d%3d&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFfIUdN3100%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFfIUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCPMRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNJFf55vVA%3d>

Details of the event on the provider's website:

<http://www.hoeyainscough.co.uk/LincolnFlyer.pdf>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All