

REPORT FOR AUDIT COMMITTEE

23 JULY 2010

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

Members of the Audit Committee will be asked to review the appointment of the Independent Members to the Committee for the municipal year 2010/11.

When reviewing the appointment of Independent Members, the Committee must be aware of their election and terms of office as stipulated within Plymouth City Council's Constitution, which in Part 1, Article 2.2, section (c), states:

(c) Independent Members (non-elected)

- (i) Independent members are appointed to specific committees, such as the Standards and Audit Committees, due to their qualifications in a specialised or professional field.
- (ii) Independent members of the Standards Committee are appointed by full Council. All other independent members are appointed to the post by the respective committee.
- (iii) Unless otherwise stipulated independent members will be appointed for a period of four years, subject to annual review. Independent members will have their role and voting rights (if any) of their post stipulated upon appointment.
- (iv) An independent member may at any time resign their position by giving notice in writing to the Chief Executive and the resignation will be effective upon its receipt.
- (v) The Council may resolve to remove one or more independent members of any of its committees, sub-committees or working groups on the recommendation of the relevant committee sub-committee or working group. Any request for this must be submitted to the chair of the relevant committee, sub-committee or working group and will be included on the agenda of the next regular meeting providing the Council's rules about notice of meetings are complied with.

The councillor who made the complaint and the independent member whose removal is sought will be given an opportunity to address the meeting on this topic.

The committee, sub committee or working group may resolve to:

- Remove the independent member from its membership with immediate effect;
- Not remove the independent member from its membership; or to
- Refer the matter to Council for decision.

In the event of either the Council or the committee, sub-committee or working group deciding against the removal, no such similar request against the same member shall be considered until six months have elapsed or the Council's next Annual General Meeting has taken place.

The Audit Committee has three Independent Members:

Name	Date appointed to Committee	Date due for renewal
Mr Richard Clarke FCA	27 June 2007	June 2011
Ms Lynne Myles ACMA	17 December 2007	December 2011
Mr Ian Stewart	11 February 2009	February 2013

Recommendation

Members consider whether to continue the appointment of the existing Independent Members for the municipal year 2010/11.