

Meeting	Full Council
Date	1 May 2025
Subject	Appointment of Members to the Standards Committee – Interview Panel Recommendations
Awdur	Iwan Evans, Monitoring Officer
Decision Sought	Approval for the appointment of Independent Member to the Standards Committee

Background

1. The Gwynedd Standards Committee comprises five independent members, three Gwynedd councillors and one community councillor
2. The term of office of two of the independent members have or are about to come to an end. As both have served two terms they are not eligible to be appointed for a further term.
3. The appointment of members of the Standards Committee is governed by the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001 (“the Regulations”). The Regulations require the Council to carry out a public recruitment exercise as specified in the Regulations and to establish an appointments panel (comprised of up to five panel members, and including one lay panel member and one community councillor), to assess applications against the criteria established by the Council for the post, and to make a recommendation on appointment to full Council.
4. The decision on appointment must be made by full Council, having regard to the recommendation of the Appointments Panel.
5. The vacancies were advertised in accordance with the statutory provisions and three applications were received.
6. An Appointments Panel was established, which comprised Mr Eifion Jones, Chair of the Standards Committee, Community Councillor Richard Parry Hughes (Community Member of the Standards Committee), Gwynedd Councillors Beca Roberts, Chair of the Council and Anne Lloyd Jones Chair of the Democratic Services Committee and Mr Griffith Jones as the statutory lay member.
7. The Panel, supported and advised by the Monitoring Officer, interviewed the candidates on 3rd April 2025. Having regard to the criteria set out in the person specification for the role, the Panel recommended the appointment of Non Gibson and Sonal Khade.
8. Non lives in Bethel, Arfon with over 23 years' experience as a Police officer completing her career as a sergeant. She has worked on a range of issues and Chaired the Early Intervention Team along with working on multi-agency issues and of course experience working within the justice system.

9. Sonal lives in Pwllheli and has a background in finance and contract management in the public sector. Now self-employed. She has worked at a high level within local government and health leading on audit projects and issues.

9. The Regulations provide that the independent members' terms of office must be set at between four and six years.

Recommendation

10. The Council is recommended to approve the appointment of Non Gibson and Sonal Khade as Independent Members of the Standards Committee, for a term of 6 years.

Views of Statutory Officers

Monitoring Officer

Responsible Officer

Chief Finance Officer

No objections from the perspective of financial propriety