



Leicester  
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED**  
All

**FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:**

**FULL COUNCIL**

**26<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

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## **Appointment of Statutory Independent Persons**

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### **Report of the Monitoring Officer**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1. To seek approval from Full Council to appoint Mr Michael Edwards and Mrs Mojisola Green as statutory Independent Persons under the Localism Act 2011

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1. To agree the appointment of Mr Michael Edwards and Mrs Mojisola Green as statutory Independent Persons for Leicester City Council's Member Misconduct process from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026

#### **3. REPORT**

- 3.1. This report recommends the appointment of two Independent Persons following completion of a recruitment and interview process.
- 3.2. Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011 requires Councils to appoint at least one Independent Person to support the standards regime. Leicester City Council has, ever since the revised national Standards Arrangements were introduced in 2012, operated with two statutory Independent Persons so as to promote both resilience and also to facilitate "review" requests.
- 3.3. In October 2025 the Council's Standards Committee were briefed upon the process for seeking renewed membership of both the Independent Person and Independent Member roles. The Committee is comprised of five Independent Members and five Elected Members. The statutory Independent Persons are not members of the Standards Committee, but they work with the Monitoring Officer to progress individual complaints.

- 3.4. A recruitment exercise was undertaken including advertisement, shortlisting and interviews by a panel comprising the Chair of Standards, the Monitoring Officer and the Head of Governance Services.
- 3.5. Amongst the skills sought, and tested for, were the following:
- A high level of integrity and high standards and ethics to inspire public confidence.
  - Knowledge of local government including the role of a Council and its Councillors but not directly involved in it.
  - Good analytical and questioning skills
  - Ability to take a fair, open-minded and objective view of sometimes emotive situations.
  - Good communication skills and ability to contribute to discussions and ask questions.
  - Ability to understand and comply with confidentiality requirements.
- 3.6. The law prescribes the following disqualification criteria:
- Being an active member of any political party
  - Being a current Elected Member, Co-opted Member or Officer of Leicester City Council, or being a relative or close friend thereof
  - Being a person who has, at any time during the 5 years ending with the appointment, been an Elected Member, Co-opted Member or Officer of Leicester City Council
- 3.7. Tenure is for five years so that appointments span the election cycle.
- 3.8. Mr Edwards is a current statutory Independent Person for Leicester City Council. He has worked in the public sector for over 30 years and is currently a Deputy Registrar of births, deaths and marriages.
- 3.9. Mrs Green is new to this role. She is a Senior Equality, Inclusion and Human Rights Manager with extensive NHS, policing and local government experience, specialising in Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) strategy, workforce reporting, and organisational change. She is recognised for her integrity, analytical rigour, and ability to lead system-wide cultural improvement through evidence-based practice, robust governance, and person-centred leadership.

## **4. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **4.1. Financial Implications**

Independent Persons receive an allowance of £2416 per annum as noted in the Members' Allowances Scheme. No additional financial implications arise from these appointments.

Stuart McAvoy  
12 March 2026

#### **4.2. Legal Implications**

These appointments are required under Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011 and must be approved by Full Council.

Kamal Adatia, City Barrister  
11 March 2026

#### **4.3. Climate Change Implications**

There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

Phil Ball, Sustainability Officer  
16 March 2026

#### **4.4 Equality Implications**

The recruitment was undertaken in line with equalities policies ensuring fairness and accessibility. The Independent Person acts as an essential check and balance in local governance, enhancing public confidence that standards matters are handled independently and fairly, while upholding principles of equality and non-discrimination.

Equalities Officer, Surinder Singh, Ext 37 4148  
13 March 2026

### **5. BACKGROUND PAPERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

### **6. REPORT AUTHOR**

6.1. Kamal Adatia, City Barrister and Head of Standards.