

Brief Resumes of Panel Members

Stuart Leslie

I have worked in local government for over thirty-four years starting at Chesterfield Borough Council as an articled clerk, now called trainee solicitors, and finishing in 2013 as Director of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer at Derby City Council where I spent 24 years.

Throughout my time in local government, and particular during my time at Derby, I have had a close working involvement with elected members including advising at a range of committees, panel and boards as well latterly at cabinet and full council meetings.

During the earlier part of my career my input was primarily legal and procedural advice, but this expanded to include host of other matters as I took on responsibility for constitutional, electoral and standards issues.

For the past ten years, until May 2022, I was the coordinator for EM Lawshare, the largest consortium of in-house public bodies legal teams in the country.

I was previously part of the panel that carried out a review of members allowances at Rushcliffe in 2014 and 2019.

Richard Dix

The major part of my working life has been spent in the public sector. After a short time in teaching in Leeds, I qualified as a solicitor and worked for local authorities in West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. My final council employment was with Newark and Sherwood District Council where I served as its Chief Executive from 1991-2007. I undertook the usual tasks of the CEO of a district council i.e. principle policy adviser and Head of the Paid Service.

After retirement from the council, I moved into the private legal sector, undertaking work on a consultancy basis as a solicitor. This was initially through Solace Enterprises Ltd and then with Jonathan Goolden Solicitors and then, following a merger, with the large practice of Wilkin Chapman Solicitors PLC. I undertook various projects including member and officer investigations, HR issues, and member and officer training.

In addition to the Rushcliffe Independent Remuneration Panel, I served for several years on the similar Panel (including as its Chairman) for Peterborough City Council. Until last year, I was one of the two Designated Independent Persons for the Newark and Sherwood DC Standards Committee as required by the Localism Act 2011.

Whilst I am now less active in employment, I retain my passion for local government and have kept my Solicitor's Practising Certificate up to date.

John Baggaley

After independent school and university, I joined the Boots Company where I worked for 33 years before retiring in 1999.

Starting as a logistics planner I moved to Finance and latterly to HR. In addition to capex duties, the former required considerable involvement in salary audit, analysis and job evaluation on a divisional scale. The move to HR was marked by taking responsibility for group salary policy, planning, forecasting and development together with job evaluation for office and management posts up to and including director level. This work required use of consultants and contact with similar companies and salary clubs to establish very large databases for benchmarking purposes.

After retiring from Boots, I continued this type of work on a consultancy basis for several years.

My local government involvement began in 1980 as first chairman of a newly constituted parish council at Colwick. I continued as chair until 2006 when I resigned to join the Standards Committee at Gedling Borough Council as an independent member. I was chair of that committee from 2007 to 2012 when a new regime under the Localism Act came into being.

Under the new regime, I was appointed Independent Person for Gedling borough, working with the Council's Monitoring Officer and am still currently in post. In December 2013, I was invited to be Independent Person at Rushcliffe Borough Council. I retired from that post in September 2022.