



## BRECKLAND COUNCIL IS LOOKING TO APPOINT TWO INDEPENDENT PERSONS

Every authority has a duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by elected and co-opted members of the authority and is required to adopt a Code of Conduct, which applies to members and co-opted member when acting in their capacity as a member or co-opted member.

The Localism Act 2011 requires that an authority must have in place arrangements under which allegations into alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct can be investigated and decisions on the allegations made. In the case of Breckland Council, this also applies to allegations in respect of parish and town councillors in the Breckland area.

Any arrangements put in place must include the provision for the appointment of at least one Independent Person whose functions will include:

- being consulted before the authority takes a decision to investigate any allegation.
- may be consulted by a member of the authority against whom an allegation has been made.
- may be consulted by a parish councillor against whom an allegation has been made.

Breckland Council is looking to appoint two Independent Persons to assist with these arrangements, to be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2012. You will reside or work in Breckland, and have relevant experience.

The Localism Act prevents a person from being appointed an independent person if they are currently a member, co-opted member or officer of Breckland Council or any parish/town council within the Breckland Council area or have been within the least five years, or you are a relative or close friend or such a person.

Training will be given.

If you are interested in applying and would like an application form and further details please contact Mrs. S. Allen, Standards Officer, Breckland Council, Democratic Services, Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, Norfolk, NR19 1EE, telephone 01362 656870, alternatively e-mail: [standards@breckland.gov.uk](mailto:standards@breckland.gov.uk). Please quote SAA/Localism/Independent Person. Closing date for receipt of applications is Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.