

REPORT OF: FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

TO: ACCOUNTS & AUDIT COMMITTEE

DATE: 20th MARCH 2018

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Vacancy for Independent Member

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This purpose of this report is to notify the Committee of:
 - (a) the decision by Mr. M Youlton, an Independent Member of the Committee, to stand down from the Committee and,
 - (b) the proposed arrangements for the appointment of a replacement Independent Member.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Committee is recommended to:
 - (a) acknowledge the request from Mr. Youlton to stand down from the Committee and express its appreciation for his contribution to the Committee's work;
 - (b) delegate authority to the Financial Services Manager, in consultation with the Committee Chairman, to conclude the appointment of a replacement Independent Member.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. To make arrangements to support the effective operation of the Committee.

ISSUE

4. In 2015, Council amended the membership of the Accounts and Audit Committee. This resulted in a reduction from 8 to 5 members of Council together with the appointment of 2 independent members.
5. The independent members were appointed for their relevant experience and expertise and to support Members of Council in holding officers to account. This arrangement has worked well to-date with the appointment of Mr. D Whatley and Mr. M Youlton as the first two independent members of the Committee.

6. More recently and following a change in role with his employer Mr. Youlton has found it difficult to attend meetings of the Committee and in February expressed a preference to stand down from the role. This leaves the Committee with a vacancy for an independent member.
7. Assuming the Committee wish to recruit a replacement independent member, the report author seeks authority to contact potential candidates that may be interested in the role. If members of the Committee have any suggestions for possible members these would be welcomed.
8. Subject to a candidate being identified and expressing an interest in the role, the intention would be to meet with them together with the Committee Chairman to outline the role and the working arrangements at the Council. This mirrors the approach which led to the first round of appointments. The Committee is asked to endorse this approach.

Policy

9. There are no new policy implications arising directly from this report.

Financial

10. There are no financial implications from this report.

Legal

11. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Risk Management

12. There are no direct risk management implications arising from the contents of this report.

Health and Safety

13. There are no Health and Safety implications arising directly from this report.

Climate Change

14. There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

Community Safety

15. There are no community safety issues arising directly from this report.

Equality and Diversity

16. There are no equality and diversity issues arising from the contents of this report.

APPENDICES / LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPER

None.