

Decision Maker: **AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Date: **4th July 2023**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS**

Contact Officer: Steve Wood, Democratic Services Officer
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Chief Officer: Director of Corporate Services and Governance

Ward: All Wards

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 Members are asked to confirm the appointment of two non-voting independent members to the Audit & Risk Management Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year.
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2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1 That Theresa Farr and Grieg Allen be appointed as non-voting Co-opted Members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year, for the consideration of Part 1 (public) and Part 2 (confidential) reports.**
- 2.2 It is recommended that the Independent Members be appointed for two years with an option to extend for a further four years.**

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Independent Members bring the added perspective of relevant experience and knowledge to matters under consideration by the Committee, including those impacting vulnerable adults and children.
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Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable:
 2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority: 5 :To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable: No cost.
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable: There is a marginal cost attached to printing agendas and posting to Co-opted Members if requested.
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Services
 4. Total current budget for this head: £366k
 5. Source of funding: Revenue Budget
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 6 FTE
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
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Legal

1. As a result of the Redmond Review, Councils are recommended by central government and CIPFA to have an audit committee with an independent member as part of the new system for regulating audit. The Government has been considering making this a statutory requirement, but has not done so yet.
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: This report does not involve an executive decision.
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: N/A
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Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: N/A
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Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: N/A
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Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: N/A
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Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: N/A
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (current and projected): N/A

3. COMMENTARY

Independent Membership for 2023/24

- 3.1 Audit Committees may appoint non-voting Independent Members to assist their work. Independent Members bring their own area of interest, expertise and knowledge to the work of an Audit Committee and broaden the spectrum of involvement in the scrutiny process. The Audit Committee are requested to consider the appointment of two Independent Members to the Committee. The Independent Members would be non-councillors with some experience in the area of audit. They would not have a vote in the same way as councillors do at committee and will be there in an advisory and consultative manner.
- 3.2 Suitably qualified and experienced independent member(s) serving on Audit Committees can bring specialist knowledge and insight to the workings and deliberations of the committee which, when partnered with elected members' knowledge of working practices and procedures, ensure:
- An effective independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework.
 - Independent review of the Authority's financial and non-financial performance.
 - Independent challenge to and assurance over the Authority's internal control framework and wider governance processes.
 - Oversight of the financial reporting process.
- 3.3 It is proposed that Theresa Farr and Grieg Allen be appointed as a non-voting Independent Members to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year for the consideration of Part 1 and Part 2 reports.