

Meeting:	Audit and Governance Committee
Subject:	Appointment of New Chair of Audit and Governance Committee and recruitment for an Independent Member
Author:	Julie Openshaw, Head of Legal
Sponsor:	Paul Kelly, Interim Finance Director
Meeting Date:	Thursday 14 July 2022

1. Purpose of the Report:

- 1.1 To elect a new Independent Chair of Audit and Governance Committee, and to note and support the proposed arrangements to fill the vacancy for an Independent Member.

2. Recommendations:

- 2.1 That Audit and Governance committee receives nominations from the existing Independent Members for the position of Chair and elects the new Chair.
- 2.2 That the proposals for recruitment of a replacement Independent Member are noted and supported.

3. Main Issues:

- 3.1 As noted by the Committee on the Consultation Call of 25 February 2022, following the resignation of Mr Chris Melling as an Independent Member and also the Chair of this committee, it is necessary at this meeting to elect a new Chair. Mr Melling's notice expired on 16 April 2022, so he is no longer a member. In the absence of a Chair, the Vice Chair, Cllr Keith Little will chair the meeting until the new Chair is elected.
- 3.2 Those members eligible to stand as Chair are the remaining Independent Members, i.e. Mr Graham Bell, Mr Kevin Brady, and Mr David Pevalin.
- 3.3 If more than one nomination was to be received, and a vote was necessary, each member of the Committee, including Independent Members, would be entitled to cast one vote. The Vice Chair would have no casting vote.
- 3.4 Given the vacancy for an Independent Member as well as the Chair, it is proposed that a recruitment process will be commenced following this meeting to fill the vacancy. As previously, the role will be publicly advertised and targeted appropriately to seek to produce a strong field of candidates with relevant skills, and a small interview panel including the Finance Director and the Monitoring Officer, or their nominees, will be set up, with scope for the new Chair to input into the process as an observer, as has previously been the case. In due course, a recommendation to TfN Board will be proposed for the appointment of the new Independent Member.

4. Corporate Considerations

Financial Implications

- 4.1 The costs associated with any recruitment will be captured in the 2022/23 budget.

Resource Implications

4.2 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

Legal Implications

4.3 Legal implications are included within the report.

Risk Management and Key Issues

4.4 Risk implications are included within this report.

Environmental Implications

4.5 None

Equality and Diversity

4.6 None

Consultations

4.7 None required

5. Background Papers

5.1 Graham Bell has expressed an interest in standing for the position of Chair. He has supplied a short supporting statement, and this will be circulated privately to the Committee in advance of the meeting.

6. Appendices

6.1 None