

Blaby District Council
Audit & Corporate Governance Committee

Date of Meeting 10 October 2023
Title of Report **Appointment of Independent Members to the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee**
Report Author Executive Director (Section 151 Officer)

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To seek approval to recommend to Council the appointment of Independent Members to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee.

2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 To Follow

3. Reason for Decision(s) Recommended

- 3.1 To Follow

4. Matters to consider

- 4.1 Background

Members of the Audit and Governance Committee will recall the Report brought to the Committee on 13 July detailing the contents of the CIPFA Position Statement regarding Audit Committees.

Included in the report was an Action Plan which detailed actions to be taken by the Committee in order to take into account the Guidance provided within the CIPFA Position Statement. An action within the plan listed the appointment of Independent Members to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee and this report provides the outcome of the process to recruit to these positions.

Independent Members will be expected to actively participate in meetings of the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee and demonstrate independence, integrity, objectivity and impartiality in their decision-making. As part of this rewarding role, they will support the Council's Audit & Corporate Governance Committee in providing independent assurance to the members of Blaby District Council, and its wider citizens and stakeholders.

Independent Members are non-voting members of the Committee, who assist in overseeing internal and external audit arrangements, reviewing and scrutinising financial statements, and reviewing and assessing the governance, risk management and control of the authority.

4.2 Proposal(s)

To follow

4.3 Relevant Consultations

Members of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee involved in the process

4.4 Significant Issues

None

5. What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?

5.1 There are no costs arising from this report

6. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

6.1

Current Risk	Actions to reduce the risks
That the persons appointed do not hold sufficient skills to act in the capacity of an Independent Member.	Criteria has been set during the recruitment process and through the interview process to ensure that candidates have the required skills and circumstances to be in a position to act as an Independent Member of the Committee.
Risk of not appointing independent members to the Committee and therefore not being compliant with best practice.	The recruitment process has been put in place to ensure compliance with best practice. Should the recruitment exercise not be successful a further process will be looked into in order to appoint to the independent positions.

7. Other options considered

7.1 None

8. Other significant issues

8.1 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities, and Climate Local and there are no areas of concern.

9. Appendix

9.1 None

10. Background paper(s)

None

11. Report author's contact details

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