

COUNCIL – 26TH APRIL 2021

Report of the Chief Executive

Part A

ITEM 6.5 APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT CHAIR FOR THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Purpose of Report

To seek approval for the appointment of a new Independent Chair for the Audit Committee in accordance with the recommendation of a selection panel of Councillors.

Recommendation

That Jane Nellist be appointed as the Independent Chair of the Audit Committee for the four civic years 2021/22 to 2024/25, unless terminated earlier by the Council.

Reason

To confirm an appointment to the position of Independent Chair of the Audit Committee.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

At its meeting on 2nd March 2009, Council decided that the Audit Committee should have an Independent Chair (i.e. a person who is not an elected Councillor). The term of office of the Current Chair, Mr Bev Angell, finishes at the end of the 2020/21 civic year, and he has stated that he does not wish to be re-appointed.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The decision will be implemented with effect from the beginning of the 2021/22 civic year.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

A special responsibility allowance for the position of the Independent Chair is included within the Scheme of Members' Allowances (£3,608 per annum for 2021/22).

Risk Management

No specific risks have been identified in relation to this decision.

Background Papers: None

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Part B

Background

1. Following the issue of a press release publicising the vacancy for the position of Independent Chair of the Audit Committee which will exist once the term of office of the current Chair expires, a selection panel consisting of Councillor Barkley, Councillor S.Bradshaw and Councillor Bolton met on 23 March 2021 to interview four applicants who had submitted expressions of interest.
2. The recommendation of the selection panel is that Ms Jane Nellist should be appointed to the position.
3. The following is a brief biography:

Jane Nellist is an ACCA qualified accountant and academic with an extensive career background in the public sector of more than thirty years. She has worked in a range of public sector bodies as an accountant and auditor and as an academic in both further and higher education institutions. Jane chairs her local ACCA members' network panel and is also an independent member on the City of Lincoln Council Audit Committee. In her role at Nottingham Trent University, she is actively involved in the continued development and delivery of undergraduate, postgraduate and apprenticeship programmes at Nottingham Business School.