



Report of the Head of Democratic Services

Council – 17 March 2022

Extension of Term of Office for Independent (Co-opted) Lay Member of the Governance & Audit Committee

Purpose:	To re-appoint Paula O'Connor as Independent (Co-opted) Lay Member of the Governance & Audit Committee for a further 5-year term.
Policy Framework:	None.
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) Paula O'Connor be re-appointed as an Independent (Co-opted) Lay Member of the Governance & Audit Committee for one further consecutive Term of Office. 2) Her Term of Office ends at the Local Government Elections in 2027.
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 set out the legislation relating to Statutory (Co-opted) Lay Members of a Governance & Audit Committee.
- 1.2 The Statutory Guidance linked to the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 recommends that a Statutory (Co-opted) Lay Member of a Governance & Audit Committee not serve more than two full Local Council Terms.

2. Reappointment

- 2.1 Paula O'Connor is an Independent (Co-opted) Lay Member of the Governance & Audit Committee. She also serves as Chair of the Committee.
- 2.2 Paula O'Connor has been an asset to the Committee and has brought a depth and breadth of knowledge and experience.
- 2.3 She was appointed as an Independent (Co-opted) Lay Member of the Governance & Audit Committee commencing on 6 March 2018. Her Term of Office ends at the Local Government Elections on 5 May 2022.
- 2.4 It is proposed that Paula O'Connor has her Term of Office until the Local Government Elections in May 2027. Her Term of Office may not be extended further.

3. Integrated Assessment Implications

- 3.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
 - Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
 - Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
 - Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- 3.2 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2005 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.
- 3.3 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.
- 3.4 An IIA screening has been undertaken and no adverse implications have been noted.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The payment of Statutory (Co-opted) Lay Members of the Governance & Audit Committee is set by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and is within existing budget.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications other than those already mentioned

Background Papers: None.

Appendices: None.