



Report of the Interim Director of Corporate Services

Council – 30 March 2023

Appointment of Lay Member to the Governance & Audit Committee

Purpose:	To approve the recommendation of the Appointments Committee held on 6 March 2023 and appoint an additional Lay Member to the Governance & Audit Committee.
Policy Framework:	None.
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) David Roberts be appointed as Lay Member of the Governance & Audit Committee. 2) The Term of Office will be five years, from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2028.
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Finance Officer:	Ben Smith
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer:	Rhian Millar

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 requires that each council shall appoint an Audit Committee in line with the recommendation made by CIPFA in 2005.
- 1.2 The Welsh Government has provided statutory guidance covering the functions and membership of the Governance & Audit Committee.
- 1.3 The City and County of Swansea has had a Governance and Audit Committee for a number of years, but the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 requires additional lay members to be appointed to the Governance and Audit Committee. One third of the Committee's membership must be Lay Members.

- 1.4 In October 2021 Council agreed to appoint three additional lay members to the Governance and Audit Committee which would bring the total number of lay members to five. In March 2022 Council appointed two additional lay members in accordance with recommendations made by the Appointments Committee.
- 1.5 In December 2022, to recruit the final lay member, an advert was placed in the South Wales Evening Post and the Western Mail inviting applications by Friday 13 January 2023.

2. Appointments Committee

- 2.1 As a result of the advert, five application forms were returned by the closing date.
- 2.2 The Appointments Committee met on 6 February 2023 to consider the applications and agreed that three applicants should be invited for interview.
- 2.3 The Appointments Committee met again on 6 March 2023 and interviewed the three applicants. The Committee recommend on the basis of the scoring and following consideration of the advice of the Interim Director of Corporate Services that David Roberts should be appointed by Council as Lay Member of the Governance and Audit Committee.

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 There are no financial implications associated with this report beyond those set out in the October 2021 Council report on agreeing to create the additional lay members' posts.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The relevant legislative provisions are set out in the report.

Background Papers: None.

Appendices: Appendix A - IIA