

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

To: The Metro Mayor and Members of the Combined Authority

Meeting: 12 April 2019

Authorities Affected: All

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: No

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT MEMBER AND NOMINATION TO THE LCR COMBINED AUTHORITY

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval of the appointment of an independent member to serve on the Combined Authority's Audit and Governance Committee and to approve the substitute appointment of the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership to the Combined Authority.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority are recommended:-

- (i) to approve the appointment of Martin McDonagh to serve as an Independent Member on the Combined Authority's Audit and Governance Committee for 2 years; and
- (ii) to note the appointment of Paul Corcoran as the nominated substitute for the Chair of the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership at Liverpool City Region Combined Authority meetings.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The membership of the Audit and Governance Committee comprises of 7 members including 6 elected members and 1 Independent Member.
- 3.2 In accordance with the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Constitution, Part 3, Section D, paragraph 1 the Independent Member shall be appointed through the prescribed procedure who:
- (i) is not a member, co-opted member or officer of the authority;

- (ii) is not a member, co-opted member or officer of a constituent local authority Parish Council for which the authority is the principal authority;
- (iii) is not a relative, or close friend, of a person within sub-paragraph (i) or (ii); and
- (iv) was not at any time during the 5 years ending with an appointment
 - (1) a member, co-opted member or officer of the authority; or
 - (2) a member, co-opted member or officer of a parish council for which the authority is the principal authority.

3.3 The recruitment process for the Independent Member began with an advertisement being placed in the Liverpool Echo with a deadline for 11 May 2018. Two applications were received. Both applicants were shortlisted and interviewed on 22 June 2018 by the then Interim Monitoring Officer and Director of Corporate Services. Neither of the two candidates were successful in the recruitment process.

3.4 Since June 2018, a number of other resources have been utilised to recruit an Independent Member to express an interest in the role through the constituent Local Authorities, the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership and the University of Liverpool. Consequently, Mr Martin McDonagh was identified as an appropriate candidate for the position of Independent Person. Following an initial meeting with the Head of Audit and Director of Corporate Services, Mr McDonagh has observed at two Audit and Governance meetings (January and March 2019) It is recommended that the appointment be made for a period of 2 years.

4. LCR LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

4.1 At the meeting of the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 21 March 2019, the Board appointed Mr Paul Corcoran as the Deputy Chair of the Board. Mr Corcoran as Deputy Chair will now therefore act as the substitute Member for the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership Board at the Combined Authority meetings in the absence of Mr Asif Hamid MBE.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

Independent Members on the Audit and Governance Committee are reimbursed for any travel and subsistence expenses incurred as a result of carrying out this role.

5.2 Human Resources

There are no specific human resources implications associated with this report.

5.3 Physical Assets

There are no specific Physical Asset implications associated with this report.

5.4 Information Technology

There are no specific Information Technology implications associated with this report.

6. RISKS AND MITIGATION

6.1 Failure to appoint an Independent Person could have significant implications for the governance arrangements of the Audit and Governance Committee.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

8. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

8.1 There are no communications issues associated with this report.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 This report has recommended an appointment to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Audit and Governance Committee.

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