



Title of Report:	Appointment of Independent Member to the Audit Committee
Committee Report Submitted To:	Audit Committee
Date of Meeting:	14th June 2023
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy 2021-2025	
Strategic Theme	Cohesive Leadership
Outcome	Improve Service Delivery
Lead Officer	Audit, Risk and Governance Manager

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	Approx £1,500 - £3,000
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	51003-2401
Staffing Costs	Internal staff costs

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

To seek approval from the Audit Committee to re-advertise and fill the position of an Independent Member to the Audit Committee.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Council agreed to the Appointment of an Independent Member in December 2015. The current Independent Member was appointed in September 2020 for 12 months with a possible extension of 24 months. The position is due to expire on the 8th September 2023.

Internal Audit is seeking the approval of the Audit Committee to re-advertise and fill the position of an Independent Member to the Audit Committee.

In order to fill the vacancy that will exist, an advertisement will be placed within the Belfast Telegraph and Coleraine Chronicle at the earliest convenience. A shortlisting and interview process will commence thereafter.

It is hoped that the position can be refilled so that there will be no period where the Audit Committee does not have an Independent Member to offer advice and guidance.

3.0 Recommendation

- 3.1 **It is recommended** that after the cessation of the current three year contract with the Independent Member, Council agree to advertise and recruit for the appointment of an Independent Member to the Audit Committee.
- 3.2 **It is recommended** that the Audit Committee Chair sits on the Interview Panel, as part of the recruitment and selection process for the appointment of the Independent Member.