

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

19 June 2020

Extension of appointment of Non-statutory, Non-voting Overview and Scrutiny Co-optees



Report of John Hewitt, Corporate Director of Resources

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To inform the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (COSMB) of the use of Chief Officer Delegation Provisions to extend the term of appointment of currently serving non-statutory, non-voting co-optees for a further two years up to May 2022.

Executive summary

- 2 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee (AWH, S&S, E&E, ESC and C&YPs) excluding the COSMB (COSMB) can appoint up to two non-statutory, non-voting co-optees. These co-optees bring specialist knowledge and an element of external challenge to the Overview and Scrutiny process. Detail of current serving non-statutory, non-voting co-optees is attached as appendix 3.
- 3 The co-optees are appointed in accordance with a protocol (attached as appendix 2) which stipulates the application, interview and appointment process to be followed. The current serving co-optees were appointed in May 2018 for two years with the term of appointment ending in May 2020.
- 4 The protocol allows the COSMB in accordance with paragraph six of the attached protocol to extend the term of appointment of co-optees for a further two years. In normal circumstances the COSMB would have received a report asking that the committee agrees to the extension of their appointment for a further two years with a full review of co-optee membership to be undertaken in 2022.

- 5 As a result of the impact of the Coronavirus outbreak it was not possible to convene a meeting of the COSMB to agree to extend the appointment of our current serving non-statutory, non-voting co-optees for a further two years.
- 6 It was therefore considered appropriate that in accordance with the Chief Officer Delegation Provisions, that the Corporate Director of Resources extends the terms of office of current non-statutory, non-voting co-optees for a further two years up to May 2022.

Recommendation

- 7 Members of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board are recommended to:
 - (a) Note the use of Chief Officer Delegation Provisions to extend the term of office of currently serving non-statutory, non-voting co-optees for a further two years up to May 2022.
 - (b) Agree that a full review of non-statutory, non-voting co-optee membership is undertaken in 2022.

Background

- 8 In Spring 2018 an extensive recruitment exercise was undertaken to fill the ten non-statutory, non-voting co-optee vacancies. The recruitment process included publicising the vacancies via the Area Action Partnerships (AAPs), DCC website and social media. This resulted in 18 applications for the ten vacancies with formal interviews held in May 2018.
- 9 The successful applicants were appointed for two years with their term of appointment coming to an end in May 2020. In order to keep continuity of expertise a report would have been submitted to the COSMB, in accordance with paragraph six of the attached protocol, to extend the term of appointment for a further two years.
- 10 As a result of the Coronavirus outbreak it was not possible to convene a meeting of the COSMB and therefore in accordance with Chief Officer Delegation Provisions, John Hewitt, Corporate Director of Resources extended the appointment of non-statutory, non-voting co-optees for a further two years to May 2020.
- 11 It is planned that a full review of non-statutory, non-voting co-optee membership will be undertaken in 2022 which will involve publicising the vacancies via social media, AAPs and DCC's website with a formal interview process undertaken prior to appointment.
- 12 Current serving co-optees have been informed that their appointment has been extended for a further two years and all have confirmed that they will continue to serve for a further two years. In addition, co-optees have been made aware that a full refresh of co-optee membership will be undertaken in May 2022.

Background papers

- Protocol for the co-option of non-statutory, non-voting scrutiny members (Appendix 2).
- Review of Overview and Scrutiny co-optee arrangements – Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board – 14 February 2018.

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Jenny Haworth

Tel: 03000 268171

Diane Close

Tel: 03000 268 141

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable

Finance

Not applicable

Consultation

Not applicable

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable

Human Rights

Not applicable

Climate Change

Not applicable

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable

Staffing

Not applicable

Accommodation

Not applicable

Risk

Not applicable

Procurement

Not applicable