

## **TERM OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNANCE, AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### SUMMARY

1. Members will be aware that the Independent Members of the GAS Committee have been appointed on the basis that they might serve for a maximum of 2 terms of 3 years. The term of office of 3 Members will, if not extended, terminate on 30 September 2017. The term of office of the remaining 4 Members was extended in 2015 to 30 September 2018.
2. Members are also aware that the Members of the GAS Committee have recently been appointed by the PCC to serve on an audit committee for periods of 3 and 5 years up to 2022 and that there is a possibility that this arrangement might lead to a joint committee being established as a further collaboration initiative. In view of this it is suggested that the Authority review the term of office of all 7 Independent Co-opted Members.

### RECOMMENDATION

3. (a) That, subject to the agreement of the individual Members, the period of appointment of some, or all, of the Independent Co-opted Members of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee be extended to ensure continuity of the Committee.
- (b) That a review is carried out prior to September 2018 to consider the potential for a joint committee with the PCC's office.

### BACKGROUND

4. As part of the Authority's review of Corporate Governance in 2012 the Governance Audit and Scrutiny (GAS) Committee was set up. The Authority at its meeting on 26 September 2014 and 24 October 2014 confirmed the appointment of the following three Independent Co-opted Members for an initial 3 year term until 30 September 2017:

Mr J Doyle, Mr A Smith and Mrs P Jackson

In 2015 the Authority agreed to extend the period of appointment of the following Members for a second term of 3 years expiring on 30 September 2018:

Mr M Allingham, Mr D Chapman, Mrs A J Thomlinson and Mr C Vertigans

5. The Authority has previously indicated that Independent Co-opted Members might serve for a maximum of 2 terms of 3 years.
6. Members are also aware that the Members of the GAS Committee have recently been appointed by the PCC to serve on an audit committee for periods of 3 and 5 years up to 2022 and that there is a possibility that this arrangement might lead to a joint committee being established as a further collaboration initiative. In view of this it is suggested that the Authority review the term of office of all 7 Independent Co-opted Members.

7. Options to extend the term of appointments are as follows:
- (i) Extend all Member appointments in line with the 3 and 5 year terms for the PCC's office;
  - (ii) Extend all Member appointments to 31 March 2019 to enable a review of the arrangements and the potential for further collaboration with the PCC's office and also to take into account any impact of the changes to the combination scheme, to allow the PCC to join the Authority, which the Government will be consulting upon;
  - (iii) Extend the term of the 3 Members who will have served their initial 3 year term in September 2017 for a second term to September 2020;
  - (iv) Do not extend any appointments and carry out a process to replace the three Members whose initial term expires on 30 September 2017.
8. There are benefits to staggering the completion of the terms of office, mainly to allow a more gradual evolution of the Committee rather than a complete change of Members at one point in time.
9. There are risks to not extending the 3 Members whose appointments end in September 2017, due to the need for consistency and continuity in readiness for the upcoming Fire Inspectorate.

#### STRATEGIC PLAN COMPATIBILITY

10. The GAS Committee is an integral part of the Governance Framework which ensures we deliver our strategic objectives in the most effective and efficient way.

#### FINANCIAL/RESOURCES/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

11. None arising directly.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. None arising directly though good governance supports legal compliance.

#### EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/HR IMPLICATIONS

13. None arising directly.

#### CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

14. The GAS Committee provides independent assurance on the adequacy of the risk management framework.

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

15. None arising directly.

#### COMMUNICATION ACTIONS ARISING

16. None arising directly.

#### DETAILS OF CONSULTATION/OR COLLABORATION

17. No direct issues arising.

BACKGROUND PAPERS AVAILABLE FOR ACCESS

18. None.

RECOMMENDATIONS RESTATED

19. (a) That, subject to the agreement of the individual Members, the period of appointment of some, or all, of the Independent Co-opted Members of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee be extended to ensure continuity of the Committee.
- (b) That a review is carried out prior to September 2018 to consider the potential for a joint committee with the PCC's office.

**M BUCKLEY**

Officer Contact: Mathew Buckley ☎ 01482 567174  
Monitoring Officer/Secretary

Humberside Fire & Rescue Service  
Summergroves Way  
Kingston upon Hull

JS  
20 June 2017

