

## APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER DIRECTORS TO THE BOARD OF HFR SOLUTIONS

### SUMMARY

1. HFR Solutions is a Community Interest Company wholly owned by Humberside Fire Authority. It has been trading successfully since April 2012 and generates a healthy surplus.
2. Since its inception the Board has consisted entirely of officers. As confidence grows in the long term future of the company the Board and Members of the Authority believe that stronger governance would help sustain the company.
3. The Authority has therefore decided to appoint two Member Directors to the Board of HFR Solutions and have received two nominations.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

4. That Members approve the appointment of Councillors Terry Walker and Arthur Hodgson as Member Directors of HFR Solutions.

### BACKGROUND

5. HFR Solutions is a Community Interest Company wholly owned by the Humberside Fire Authority. It has been trading successfully since April 2012 and generates a healthy surplus which is invested in projects that benefit the community.
6. The Board of HFR Solutions has, since its inception, consisted entirely of officers and at this time these are DCO Sanders, ACO Blacksell and AM Granger.
7. Members of the Authority have always taken a keen interest in the company and monitor its progress by receiving comprehensive quarterly reports.
8. As the business grows the Board is ever more confident that HFR Solutions has a long term future and following discussions with Members of the Authority have agreed that stronger governance arrangements with active Member involvement would be beneficial.
9. To this end it was agreed that the Authority would nominate two Member Directors to join the Board of HFR Solutions. To assist in the selection of Member Directors a role specification has been developed (Appendix 1).
10. Members felt that the communities of the Service area would be best represented by nominating one Member Director from South of the Humber and the other from the North.
11. The nominations are:-
  - Councillor Terry Walker (South)
  - Councillor Arthur Hodgson (North)

12. Should the nominations be approved Councillors Walker and Hodgson will be appointed as Member Directors and commence their duties immediately.

#### STRATEGIC PLAN COMPATIBILITY

13. HFR Solutions contributes directly to Strategic Objective 4 (Making the best use of the resources we have) and 5 (Continuing to develop a committed, skilled and safe workforce). The appointment of Member Directors will ensure full Member involvement in the business.

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

14. None.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

15. Appointment of Member Directors will strengthen the governance of HFR Solutions.

#### EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/HR IMPLICATIONS

16. None.

#### CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

17. None directly though the appointment of Member Directors will broaden the skill base of the Board.

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

18. None.

#### COMMUNICATION ACTIONS ARISING

19. None.

#### DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

20. All Members of HFA have been involved in the nomination of Member Directors.

#### BACKGROUND PAPERS AVAILABLE FOR ACCESS

21. None.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS RESTATED

22. That Members approve the appointment of Councillors Terry Walker and Arthur Hodgson as Member Directors of HFR Solutions.

**R HANNIGAN**

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## **Member Director**

The following is not intended to be an absolute role description but rather a starting point for Members to consider the role that they would see a Member Director fulfilling. This may in turn assist with the selection of a Member Director (should the Authority decide to take that approach).

The role may include:

- Provide a Fire Authority steer and context to the Company;
- To report back to the Authority;
- To exercise close scrutiny of the performance of the Company on behalf of the Authority;
- To be a conduit for direction from the Authority;
- Assist to identify internal and external issues affecting the Company;
- Ensuring that the Board has available to it key advice;
- Represent the Company as may be required in order to enhance the reputation and profile of the Company;
- Foster an effective teamwork;
- Ensuring that audit is undertaken, together with risk and performance planning;
- Providing challenge and wise counsel to the Board.

The role would not include:

- Any day-to-day management responsibilities and decision making.

In respect to knowledge and skills, there is no suggestion that a Member needs to have particular experience in a company setting. Depending on the role that the Authority is seeking from any Member Directors, then there may be some advantage in having some commercial exposure and strong business acumen, but also from an audit/scrutiny point of view then other skills are equally relevant. Members could consider two distinct roles if they saw fit.

