

## HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Report to Audit & Regulatory Committee

25 October 2018

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Appointment of Independent Member</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR:</b>	<b>Councillor Thrane - Executive Councillor for Finance and Operational Services</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Linden Vernon – Senior Officer – Governance and Member Support</b>
<b>WARDS INVOLVED:</b>	<b>Non-Specific</b>

#### **Appendices Attached – None**

#### **1. Reason for the Report**

- 1.1 To consider the appointment of an Independent Member to the Committee.

#### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 That Mr Martin Thomas be appointed as an Independent Member of the Audit and Regulatory Committee:

#### **3. Executive Summary**

- 3.1 Each year members of the Audit and Regulatory Committee consider a report which reviews the effectiveness of the Committee. Following a self-assessment of Committee Member skills a shortfall in some specialist areas of knowledge was identified. The Committee therefore resolved to consider the appointment of independent members whose skills would be focussed in the areas where a shortfall had been identified.
- 3.2 Subsequent to the review Council resolved that the Committee comprise 9 elected members and 3 (non-voting) independent members. The Committee subsequently appointed Mr Peter Grant and Mrs Cheryl Morgan to two of the independent member positions. This report seeks the appointment of Mr Martin Thomas to the third vacant position.

#### **4. How this report links to Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 Not applicable.

## 5. **Alternative Options**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the appointment of Mr Thomas to the remaining Independent Member position given that his experience and knowledge matches the technical and generic skills detailed in the Job Description for this position.

Mark Trillo

### **Executive Director (People) and Monitoring Officer**

**Web Links and  
Background Papers**  
[Report to Council 11 May 2017](#)

### **Contact details**

Linden Vernon  
Senior Officer - Governance and Member  
Support  
linden.vernon@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk

## 6. **Detail**

- 6.1 Each year members of the Audit and Regulatory Committee consider a report which reviews the effectiveness of the Committee. During a previous review committee members completed a self-assessment of their individual knowledge and skills. The self-assessment demonstrated that there was a shortfall in some specialist areas of knowledge.
- 6.2 The committee therefore resolved to consider the appointment of independent members whose skills would need to be focussed in the areas where a shortfall had been identified.
- 6.3 At its meeting on 11 May 2017 Council resolved that the Committee comprise 9 elected members and 3 (non-voting) independent members and that delegated responsibility be granted to the Audit and Regulatory Committee to appoint future independent members.
- 6.4 The Committee subsequently appointed Mr Peter Grant and Mrs Cheryl Morgan in February 2018 to two of the independent member positions. This report seeks an appointment to the third vacant position. Following the completion of an application for the remaining position Mr Martin Thomas was interviewed by Councillors Douglas, Sloman and Thrane in July 2018. Mr Thomas' previous employment has included a number of senior financial/audit positions and has extensive experience in treasury management, internal/external audit, financial accounting and pension fund/investment management. Mr Thomas also participates in a number of local community groups and is a Whaley Bridge Town Councillor.
- 6.5 The position will receive an allowance of £395 per annum and the appointee will be able to claim out of pocket expenses.