

## **HIGH PEAK BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **Report to Audit & Regulatory Committee**

**14 February 2018**

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Appointment of Independent Members</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR:</b>	<b>Councillor Emily 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 Independent Members to the Committee.

#### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the following persons be appointed as Independent Members of the Audit and Regulatory Committee:

- Mr Peter Grant
- Mrs Cheryl Morgan

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

- 3.1 Each year members of the Audit and Regulatory Committee consider a report which reviews the effectiveness of the Committee. The last review demonstrated that there was a shortfall in some specialist areas of knowledge. At its meeting on 11 May 2017 Council therefore granted delegated responsibility to the Committee to appoint three independent members to address this issue.
- 3.2 It is now recommended that the Committee appoints Mr Peter Grant and Mrs Cheryl Morgan to two of the positions. The third position is currently being advertised via the Council's website.

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

- 4.1 The successful delivery of all corporate priorities is dependent upon the effective scrutiny and development of Council policies and services.

Mark Trillo

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

<b>Web Links and Background Papers</b>	<b>Contact details</b>
<a href="#">Report to Council 11 May 2017</a>	Linden Vernon Senior Officer - Governance and Member Support linden.vernon@highpeak.gov.uk

#### 5. Detail

- 5.1 Each year members of the Audit and Regulatory Committee consider a report which reviews the effectiveness of the Committee. Following the last 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.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 It is now recommended that the Committee appoints Mr Peter Grant and Mrs Cheryl Morgan to two of the independent member positions. Mr Grant and Mrs Morgan currently act as substitutes for the Council's Independent Person and were previously interviewed for these posts by Councillors Thrane, Sloman and Oakley. Both candidates bring to the Committee strong experience in scrutinising financial/numerical information and examining complex documentation. Mrs Morgan has worked previously as a Government statistician whilst Mr Grant has a legal background and has managed cases for the Citizens Advice Bureau.
- 5.5 Each position will receive an allowance of £395 per annum and appointees will be able to claim out of pocket expenses. The third position is currently being advertised via the Council's website and it is hoped that a recommendation for the final appointment will be made at the Committee's next meeting.