

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Appointment of Independent Member</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Audit Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For Information</b>
<b>To be discussed In Committee</b>	<b>YES/NO</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Cohesive Leadership
Outcome	Improve Service Delivery
Lead Officer	Director of Corporate Services/Audit, Risk and Governance Manager

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	Approx £1,500 - £3,000
Included in Current Year Estimates	<b>YES/NO</b>
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	51003-2401
Staffing Costs	Internal staff costs

<b>Legal Considerations</b>	
Input of Legal Services Required	<b>YES/NO</b>
Legal Opinion Obtained	<b>YES/NO</b>

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

## **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 Council agreed the appointment of a new Independent Member to the Audit Committee at the June meeting. The advertisement appeared in the Belfast Telegraph on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023, with a closing date of 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 4.00 pm.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 Nine applicants were registered on Council's electronic recruitment system. Three applications were returned. Three applications were shortlisted and interviewed.

The successful applicant being Lesley Mitchell. Lesley has accepted the re-appointment to her position and commenced on the 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2023. We also have a reserve candidate who will remain on the reserve list for one year up to 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

- 2.2 Lesley Mitchell is a fully qualified accountant with over 30 years post qualification experience. She worked in the health service for 32 years of which 18 years was in the role of Finance Director in the Foyle Health and Social Services Trust and latterly the Western Health and Social Care Trust. Lesley retired from the health service in 2019 and is currently working as an Audit Committee member for the NI Commissioner for Children and Young People.

## **3.0 Recommendation**

**It is recommended** that the Audit Committee recommends to Council the to note the re-appointment of Lesley Mitchell.