

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO: Council

DATE OF MEETING: 9 December 2021

LOCATION: Remotely via Video Conference

TITLE: Governance and Audit Committee:
- Appointment of 3 independent/lay persons/members

PURPOSE OF REPORT: To approve

FOR: Decision

**Cabinet Portfolio and
Cabinet Member:** Cllr. Ray Quant MBE, Deputy Leader of the Council
and Cabinet Member for Legal &
Governance, People & Organisation and Democratic
Services

Background

On 18th March 2021 Council resolved to approve:

- The commencement of the recruitment process for independent lay members to the Audit Committee;
- The proposals for the Shortlisting Selection Panel; and
- The Role Description and Person Specification.

A Report on the size of the Governance and Audit Committee was presented to Council on 17 June 2021 and Council resolved that, with effect from 5th May 2022, the Governance and Audit Committee shall comprise:

- 6 x County Council Members
- 3 x independent lay members

Total: 9.

The current Lay Member of the Council's Governance and Audit Committee, Professor Ian Roffe, has been in post since 25 September 2012. On 20 June 2019 Professor Roffe's term was extended until the Local Government elections in 2022.

Current Position

A recruitment process for three independent lay members has been undertaken. Shortlisting Selection Panel took place on 11 May 2021 with interviews on 27 May 2021. A further recruitment campaign was required and a further Shortlisting Selection Panel took place on 14 September 2021 with interviews on 29 October 2021.

The successful candidates were:

- Liam Hull;
- Caroline Whitby; and
- Alan Davies.

It is proposed that the appointments of the three successful candidates will be for no more than two consecutive administrative terms (i.e. 10 years - the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 provides at S.14 that ordinary elections of councillors of the new principal councils shall take place in 2022 and in every fifth year thereafter).

Should Council choose to appoint the successful candidates for 2 municipal terms, the relevant dates of appointment for all 3 candidates would be from 5 May 2022 to 4 May 2032.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? No *This report does not represent a change in policy or strategy.*
If, not, please state why
Summary:

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:	Long term:	N/A
	Integration:	N/A
	Collaboration:	N/A
	Involvement:	N/A
	Prevention:	N/A

Recommendation(s): That the Council resolves to:

1. Approve the appointments of the following individuals as independent/ lay persons of the Governance and Audit Committee:

- Liam Hull;
- Caroline Whitby; and
- Alan Davies

with effect from 5 May 2022 up to as maximum of two consecutive administrative terms thereafter.

Reasons for decision: The recommendations are necessary to ensure that the appropriate appointments are in place, in accordance with relevant legislation and the Constitution.

Overview and Scrutiny: Not applicable

Policy Framework: Ceredigion Council is an organisation that is fit for purpose to deliver improving services to meet the needs of our citizens.

Corporate Priorities: Effective Corporate Governance ensures that the Council can deliver on all the Corporate Priorities:

1. Boosting the Economy
2. Investing in Peoples Future
3. Enabling Individual and Family Resilience, and
4. Promoting Environmental and Community Resilience.

Finance and Procurement

implications: To comply fully with Requirements.

Legal Implications: To comply with legislation/regulations.

Staffing implications: None

Property / asset implications: None

Risk(s): None

Statutory Powers: Local Government Act 1972
Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/4/contents>
Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2021/1/contents>
The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021
(Commencement No. 2 and Saving Provisions) Order 2021
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2021/297/contents/made>
Statutory Guidance from the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011:
<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-06/statutory-guidance-from-the-local-government-measure2011.pdf>
CIPFA Audit Committee Guidance:
<https://www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/publications/a/audit-committees-practical-guidance-for-local-authorities-and-police-2018-edition-online>

Background Papers: Report of 2 October 2019 to Audit Committee:
http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpdl/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/H%20size%20of%20audit%20committee.pdf
2 October 2019 Audit Committee Minutes:
http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpdl/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/G%20Cofnodion%20combined%20171219.pdf
Report to Council 20 June 2019:
http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpdl/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/F_Aelod%20Lleyg%20y%20Pwyllgor%200Archwilio.pdf
20 June 2019 Council Meeting Minutes:
http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpdl/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/A_Cofnodion%2020.06.19.pdf
Monitoring Officer verbal update to Audit Committee 12 November 2020 – Meeting Minutes:

<http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/media/8073/audit-121120-finals.pdf>

27 January 2020 Report to Democratic Services Committee:

http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpd/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/Size%20of%20audit%20committee.pdf

Report to Audit Committee 24 February 2021

[http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpd/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/B%20LG%20and%20Elections%20combined%20\(s\).pdf](http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpd/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/B%20LG%20and%20Elections%20combined%20(s).pdf)

Report to Council 18 March 2021:

[http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpd/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/l%20-%20Changes%20to%20Audit%20Committee%20per%20Local%20Government%20and%20Elections%20\(Wales\)%20Act%202021.pdf](http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cpd/Democratic_Services_Meetings_Public/l%20-%20Changes%20to%20Audit%20Committee%20per%20Local%20Government%20and%20Elections%20(Wales)%20Act%202021.pdf)

18 March 2021 Council Meeting Minutes:

<https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/media/8975/cofnodion-ddrafft-18032021-saesneg-final.pdf>

Report to Council 17 June 2021:

<https://council.ceredigion.gov.uk/documents/s1675/Report%20to%20Council%20on%20size%20of%20Governance%20and%20Audit%20Committee.pdf?LLL=0>

17 June 2021 Council Meeting Minutes:

<https://council.ceredigion.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=149&MId=159&Ver=4&LLL=0>

Appendices:

None

Contact Name:

Elin Prysor

Designation:

Corporate Lead Officer: Legal & Governance (& Monitoring Officer)

Date of Report:

11/11/2021