

REPORT TO:	GENERAL PURPOSES & AUDIT COMMITTEE 17 March 2020
SUBJECT:	GPAC Independent Non-voting Member Recruitment
LEAD OFFICER:	Simon Maddocks, Head of Internal Audit
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Simon Hall Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources
WARDS:	ALL
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT:	
The report relates to the appointment of independent non-voting Members in respect of Audit functions for the General Purposes and Audit Committee	
FINANCIAL IMPACT	
There are no direct costs arising from the proposals within this report.	
1. RECOMMENDATIONS:	
That the Committee:	
1.1 Supports the recommendation of the recruitment panel for the preferred candidate to be appointed as an independent non-voting co-opted member of the Committee;	
1.2 Recommends to Full Council that the appointment should be confirmed for the remainder of the municipal year and that said appointment be subject to the Code of Conduct for Non-Voting Co-optees.	

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report identifies the recommended candidate to be appointed as an independent non-voting co-opted Member on the General Purposes and Audit Committee.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 The Council Constitution provides for the General Purposes and Audit Committee to have two non-elected independent non-voting members on the Committee. These co-opted Members can provide the Committee with outside knowledge, experience and skills that can inform the Audit work of the General Purposes and Audit Committee and supplement the role of Members.
- 3.2 There is currently a vacancy following the resignation of one of the post holders.

- 3.3 At its meeting on January 13th 2020, this committee gave a delegation to the Chair to commence recruitment by inviting applications for the vacant post. Once a suitable candidate was identified following the interview process, this was to be reported back to the committee to enable a recommendation to be made to Full Council at the end of March for the appointment to be confirmed.
- 3.4 It is hoped that a new independent non-voting co-opted Member of the committee would commence their duties at the July meeting of the committee.
- 3.5 After advertising the role on the Council's website, in the Council's e-newsletter 'Your Croydon' in the local press and on LinkedIn followed by an interview process, a suitable candidate has been identified.
- 3.6 The Committee is asked to recommend to Full Council, the appointment of **James Smith** as an independent non-voting co-opted member of the General Purposes and Audit Committee, in relation to Audit only functions. Such appointment is to be subject to the Code of Conduct for Non-Voting Co-optees. James is a resident of the borough. Professionally he is a Chartered Engineer and a Programme Manager with TfL.

4. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The proposals within the report do not have financial implications as the Scheme of Members Allowances does not contain provision for allowances to Co-opted Members.

(Approved by: Ian Geary, Head of Finance, Resources & Accountancy)

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Head of Litigation and Corporate Law comments on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance that there is provision within the Constitution for the appointment of two independent non-voting co-opted committee members to the General Purpose and Audit Committee who are permitted to be involved in an advisory capacity in respect of the Audit Functions only of the committee. Such members are bound by the Council's Scheme of Co-option and in turn the Code of Conduct for non-voting co-opted members. Within the Code of Conduct there is also a requirement to complete a register of interests within 28 days of taking office.

(Approved by: Sandra Herbert Head of Corporate and Litigation Law on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance & Deputy Monitoring Officer)

6. HUMAN RESOURCES EQUALITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACTS

6.1 There are no direct implications in these areas arising from this report.

(Approved by: Jennifer Sankar, Head of HR Place & Interim Head of HR Resources, for and on behalf of Sue Moorman, HR Director)

CONTACT OFFICER: Simon Maddocks, Head of Internal Audit

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None