

19 May 2021

Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee

- 1.1 The role of the Audit and Governance Committee has evolved and it is central to the governance, internal control, compliance and risk aspects of the operation of the Council. Having an independent voice with the appropriate background knowledge and skills is recommended by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). As a result, the Council is looking to appoint a committed individual to undertake the role.
- 1.2 The Independent Member, through their participation at meetings of the Audit and Governance Committee, will assist the County Council in discharging its powers and functions as set out in the terms of reference for the Audit and Governance Committee.
- 1.3 The Independent Member will evaluate information on the basis of evidence presented without political bias. They will be able to weigh up differing views and come to an evidence based conclusion.
- 1.4 An annual allowance of £500 plus reasonable travel expenses will be payable. The position is for a fixed term of four years.
- 1.5 The role was advertised on the Council website in March 2021 and one application was received from David Clowes. David was interviewed on 7 April 2021 by Cllr Nigel Robbins, Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee and fellow committee members Cllr Brian Oosthuysen and Cllr Shaun Parsons. The panel was advised by the Chief Internal Auditor and the Head of Democratic Services. David was asked a number of questions covering his knowledge and experience and their understanding of the role.
- 1.6 After detailed consideration, the interview panel was unanimous in recommending that David Clowes should be appointed to the role. David lives in Tewkesbury District and is an active member of the local community. He is currently a Non-Executive Director of Cheltenham Borough Homes and is a member of their Audit and Risk Committee and Chair of their Remuneration and Nominations Committee. Now retired, David was previously an Underwriting Manager within the Insurances Services Industry. He brings extensive knowledge of governance and assurance issues.
- 1.7 References have been taken up which confirm David's suitability for the role.

1.8 **Recommendation**

David Clowes is appointed as the Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee until the next County Council election in May 2025.

Simon Harper

Head of Democratic Services

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