

| <b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL</b> |  |
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| <b>COMMITTEE:</b>                      | <b>AUDIT COMMITTEE</b>                           |
| <b>DATE:</b>                           | <b>11 DECEMBER 2013</b>                          |
| <b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>                | <b>REVIEW OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER APPOINTMENTS</b> |
| <b>PURPOSE OF REPORT:</b>              | <b>FOR INFORMATION</b>                           |
| <b>REPORT BY:</b>                      | <b>HEAD OF FUNCTION - RESOURCES</b>              |
| <b>ACTION:</b>                         | <b>FOR DECISION</b>                              |

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Local Government Measure (Wales) 2011 included a requirement for the first time for local authority Audit Committees to include at least one Independent Member from May 2012.
- 1.2 The terms of reference of the Audit Committee were therefore amended accordingly. The current terms of reference for the Audit Committee include the following in terms of membership of the Committee:
- 3.4.8.3.3 - The co-opted member(s), not being members of the Council, to be recruited for skills appropriate to the Audit Committee's work, and who shall be appointed by the Councillor members of the Audit Committee for a fixed term to be determined by them when the appointment is made.*
- 1.3 The Audit Committee held on 26 May 2011 resolved that two co-optees be recruited to serve on the Audit Committee on a non remunerated basis. At the Audit Committee held on 24 May 2012 the Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Audit Committee Panel that that two Independent Members be appointed to serve on the Audit Committee
- 1.4 Appointment letters were subsequently sent out to the two successful Independent Members on 20 July 2012 stating that their term of office '*is for a period of two years, beginning on the 01 July 2012.*' The current Independent Members attended their first meeting on 24 July 2012.

## **2. REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS**

- 2.1 Due to the time required for the selection process for Independent Members it is felt expedient to undertake a review of the Council's arrangements for independent members and to obtain the Committee's decision on the meeting of the requirement of the Local Government Measure (Wales) 2011 from 30 June 2014.
- 2.2 The Committee is requested to consider the following three options for the appointment of Independent Members to serve from July 2014 2014:
- 1) Extend the current arrangements with the existing Independent Members from July 2014 for a further two years;

- 2) Undertake a recruitment exercise to select two Independent Members to serve from July 2014 for a period of four years – current Independent Members eligible for reselection; or
- 3) Undertake a recruitment exercise to select two Independent Members to serve from July 2014 for a period of four years – current Independent Members ineligible for reselection.

Options 2) & 3) to include an amendment to the Committee terms of reference to the effect that a selection process will be held every four years to select up to two Independent Members and that each Independent Member may only serve for a period of four years maximum.

- 2.3 Of course the Committee may decide on an alternative method of providing on-going Independent Membership at its meetings from July 2014.

Head of Function (Resources)

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