

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Governance and Audit Committee held
at County Hall, Usk - Remote Attendance on Monday, 6th June, 2022 at 2.00 pm

PRESENT: County Councillor A. Blackmore (Chairman)
County Councillor P. Strong (Vice Chairman)

County Councillor: A. Blackmore, C. Prosser, I. Chandler,
J. Crook, A. Easson, R.J.W. Greenland, M. Lane, P. Murphy,
P. Strong and L. Wright

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Matt Phillips	Chief Officer People and Governance and Monitoring Officer
Andrew Wathan	Chief Internal Auditor
Peter Davies	Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Officer, Resources
Wendy Barnard	Democratic Services Officer
Jonathan Davies	Acting Assistant Head of Finance

APOLOGIES:

Martin Veale, Lay Member and Rachel Freitag, Audit Wales Officer.

1. Appointment of Chair

Lay Member, Andrew Blackmore was appointed as Chair.

2. Appointment of Vice Chair

County Councillor P. Strong was appointed as Vice Chair.

3. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

4. Appointment of members to a selection panel for the remaining lay person

The Chief Internal Auditor provided an update on the Lay Member recruitment and selection process aligned to the changes required by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. In Monmouthshire, the Governance and Audit Committee consists of 12 Members. One third must be Lay Members.

Following the successful appointment of three Lay Members to the Governance and Audit Committee, one vacancy remains unfilled. The vacancy will be advertised.

It was agreed to form a selection panel consisting of the following 4 members:

Chair
County Councillor P. Murphy

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County Councillor P. Strong
Mr C. Prosser

Details of the process will be sent to the selection committee in due course.

5. Member induction - a brief update

The Deputy Chief Executive announced that there is a members' Induction session for members of the Governance and Audit Committee and any other interested elected members with a variety of contributions.

The session will cover the role of the Governance and Audit Committee, the changes arising from the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2022 and links with scrutiny committees. Regular report authors will also contribute to the session – e.g. the Chief Internal Auditor and Performance Manager. Audit Wales officers have also been invited to contribute to the session.

6. Forward work programme

The Forward Work Programme was presented. This lists the reports expected before Committee in the meeting up to March 2023, when they are scheduled to appear and the responsible officers.

7. Date of Next Meeting: 20th June 2022

Meeting ended at 2.35 pm