

CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

MEETING OF: GOVERNANCE AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE
DATE: 10TH NOVEMBER 2021
REPORT OF: DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND COMMISSIONING
AUTHOR: ANDREW LEADBETTER

SUBJECT: INDEPENDENT (NON-ELECTED) MEMBER –
FURTHER TERM OF OFFICE

Purpose of Report

1. To enable Members to consider the request by Derek Barnett to serve a further four year term of office as an independent (non-elected) member (IM).

Recommended: That Members

- [1] determine whether they wish to recommend to the Fire Authority that Derek Barnett serve a further term of office as an independent (non-elected) member.

Background

2. Derek Barnett was appointed as an IM by the Authority on 25th April 2018 for a term of office of four years. The Authority reviewed the roles of IMs in 2016 and agreed that they were able to apply to serve a further four year term.

Information

3. Derek has informed officers that he wishes to serve a further term as an IM.
4. Derek has been an active participant during his term of office. Appendix 1 to the report provides details of Derek's attendance at meetings that he was required to attend since he was appointed. Although there is no requirement to do so, Derek regularly attends the Fire Authority meetings.
5. Derek is currently the only serving IM for the Fire Authority. Since the departure of the second IM, Derek has agreed to attend more meetings such as the Estates and Property Committee and the Member Training and Development Group.
6. Derek has also attended additional events such as station open days, training events and Prince's Trust graduation ceremonies.

Financial Implications

7. There is a small cost of having IMs. This is adequately covered in the budget.

Legal Implications

8. The involvement of IMs is not a legal requirement. The Fire Authority is expected to uphold high standards and the role of IMs is associated with this and may provide members of the public with greater confidence about standards and decision making generally.

Equality and Diversity Implications

9. There are no equality and diversity implications associated with this report.

Environmental Implications

10. There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: NONE