

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

10 OCTOBER 2018

REPORT OF DIRECTOR FOR LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

ANNUAL MEETING APPOINTMENT - UPDATE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the recommendation of the Governance Committee held on 24 July 2018 for the removal of the annual appointment of a Chair to the Appeals Committee and the associated implications on the Member Allowances Scheme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **To approve the removal of the annual appointment of a Chair to the Appeals Committee with immediate effect and that this appointment be made on an ad hoc basis as and when a meeting is required.**
- 2.2 **To approve that the Special Responsibility Allowance allocated to the Chair of the Appeals Committee be deleted from the Member Allowances Scheme with immediate effect and the scheme be updated accordingly.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 Following completion of the first phase of the Governance Review which included approval of a set of 27 recommendations at the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 8 May 2018, the Governance Development Group has been working with officers on phase 2 of the review.
- 3.2 The group has considered the role of the Appeals Committee given that it has not met since May 2009. Due to this lack of regular business requirement and the ongoing payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) to the Chair of this Committee, the group recommends the removal of the requirement to appoint a Chair on an annual basis and the corresponding SRA. The group considered that a Chair could be appointed on an ad hoc basis as and when the Committee was required to meet and this is the approach taken to training for the Chair and those involved in the Committee. The current Chair of the Appeals Committee has been consulted as has the Chair of the Welland Independent Remuneration Panel.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Ensuring effective governance is a key component to making the best use of resources and ensuring the effective delivery against the Council's Corporate vision and objectives.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Any financial and resource implications will be met from existing resources.
- 5.2 Should the proposals outlined in this report be approved, there will be a saving to the Corporate and Democratic Core budget due to the removal of the of the SRA

to the Chair of the Appeals Committee in the sum of £2,163 per annum.

5.3 Streamlining of governance processes will inevitably have a productivity gain in terms of officer time being released to focus on other priorities. Whilst this cannot be quantified currently it will be evaluated over the coming months and considered in more detail, particularly as alternative governance models are considered further and the scheme of delegation updated.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 There are no direct legal implications associated with this report but any subsequent recommendations will need to be considered in the context of current legislation.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 There are no community safety implications relating to this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 Equalities Screening Assessments have been drafted on constitution matters matters in this report relate to the legality around governance arrangements.

9.0 RISKS

9.1

L I K E L I H O O D	A	Very High				
	B	High				
	C	Significant				
	D	Low		1, 2		
	E	Very Low				
	F	Almost Impossible				
			Negligible 1	Marginal 2	Critical 3	Catastrophic 4
IMPACT						

Risk No	Risk Description
1	To not have robust governance arrangements could mean the Council's aims and objectives cannot be met
2	To continue to pay an SRA that has not proved to be needed over 9 years does not constitute value for money

10.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

10.1 There are no direct climate change implications

11.0 **CONSULTATION**

11.1 The Governance Development Group continue to consider the way forward and work towards developing the Council's proposed Governance arrangements.

11.2 The Chair of the Appeals Committee and the Chair of Welland Independent Remuneration Panel have been consulted on the removal of the annual appointment of a Chair to the Appeals Committee and the associated SRA.

12.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All wards are indirectly affected by this report.

Contact Officer	Adele Wylie
Date:	September 2018
Background Papers:	Peer Challenge Review – December 2017, LGA Governance Review – March 2018 Extraordinary Council decisions – 8 May 2018
Reference :	X : Committees – Full Council – 2018 19 – 101018 – Annual Meeting appointment update