

# Midlothian Integration Joint Board Audit and Risk Committee



## Membership of Audit and Risk Committee– Independent Member

Thursday, 6 June 2024

Item number: 5.2

### Executive summary

The IJB Audit and Risk committee's terms of reference lay out the membership of the committee. That is four members from the voting members of the IJB (two from NHSiL and two from Midlothian Council) and an independent member. The latter being an individual who is not a member of the IJB (nor a member of the NHS Lothian Board nor a Midlothian Councillor) and is therefore literally independent from the IJB and its partners. Such an individual will bring their previous experience to the committee, provide an additional input into the work of the committee and support the committee's role in assuring proper governance. This role is considered best practice in the development of an audit committee and such a member has sat on the IJB's audit and Risk committee in previous years although currently this role is vacant.

#### ***Committee members are asked to:***

- *Support the appointment of an Independent Member for the committee.*

# Report

## 1. Purpose

---

- 1.1 This paper considers the appointment of an independent member to the IJB's Audit and Risk committee which is covered by the Term's of Reference of the committee.

## 2. Recommendations

---

- 2.1 Committee members are asked to
- Support the appointment of an independent member to the committee.

## 3. Background and main report

---

- 3.1 The current Terms of Reference for the IJB's Audit and risk committee lay out the membership of the committee. That is four voting members of the IJB along with an independent member who is not a member of the IJB nor a Midlothian Councillor nor a member of NHS Lothian Board.
- 3.2 Currently this particular role is vacant.
- 3.3 The quorum for the committee is three members including the independent member.
- 3.4 Best practice and guidance in the membership and governance of audit committees requires that an independent member is appointed.
- 3.5 It is important that the IJB and its committees operate as transparently as possible and that the opportunity to apply for this role is made widely available. Therefore it is proposed that the role is advertised on the IJB's website.
- 3.6 That said, the previous independent members have been individuals known to the IJB Chief Officer or the chair who have been approached directly. Thus if no applications are forthcoming from the advertisement then the Committee should ask the Chief Officer to identify any individual who may be willing to serve.
- 3.7 Any candidates will then meet with the Committee chair who can then make an appropriate recommendation to the committee.
- 3.8 This role will not be remunerated.

## 4. Policy Implications

---

4.1 There are no further policy implications arising from this report.

## 5. Equalities Implications

---

5.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report

## 6. Resource Implications

---

6.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

## 7 Risks

---

7.1 The are no further risks arising from this report.

## 8 Involving People

---

8.1 There are no direct implications for involving people as a result of this report.

## 9 Background Papers

---

9.2 None

<b>AUTHOR'S NAME</b>	David King
<b>DESIGNATION</b>	Interim Chief Finance Officer
<b>CONTACT INFO</b>	<a href="mailto:david.king4@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk">david.king4@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk</a>
<b>DATE</b>	May 2024

---