



AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE	
31st May 2019	PUBLIC REPORT

CO-OPTION OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER FROM A CONSTITUENT COUNCIL.

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to ask the Audit and Governance Committee to consider appointing an independent member from a Constituent Council for the ensuing year.

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	
Lead Officer:	Howard Norris, Interim Monitoring Officer
(a) That the Audit and Governance Committee consider the co-option of an independent member (and substitute) from a Constituent Council.	

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Combined Authority at its Annual General Meeting on 29th May 2019 will appoint the members nominated by constituent councils to the Audit and Governance Committee as detailed in the report.
- 2.2 The Board will also consider delegating authority to the Audit and Governance Committee to co-opt an independent member from a Constituent Council and substitute for the municipal year 2019/20.
- 2.3 Previously, discretion has been used to provide independent members a seat on both the Audit and Governance Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. However, if such discretion had been used following the May 2019 elections at Constituent Councils, it would have tipped the balance on both committees in favour of non-conservative members.
- 2.4 Recognising the process operated through the exercise of discretion last year to provide an independent Member with a seat but ensuring the political balance of the Committee is not compromised, it has been proposed that the Audit and Governance Committee could consider the co-option of an independent member (from a constituent Council) to the Committee. The co-

opted member (and substitute) would not be given voting rights

2.5 Should the Audit and Governance Committee agree to the co-option of an independent member, authority may be delegated from the Combined Authority Board to the Committee to appoint a co-optee. The co-option would be for the municipal year 2019/2020.

2.6 Independent Groups/Members have been asked for expressions of interests for co-option and if agreed by the Audit and Governance Committee, a random selection will then be made by an independent officer of the authority and witnessed by the Monitoring Officer for both the co-opted and their substitute. The substitute will not necessarily be required to be a named substitute from the same Constituent Council.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, no remuneration is to be payable by the Combined Authority to its members including co-opted members of the Audit and Governance Committee.

4.0 APPENDICES

4.1 None