
Independent Members

Governance & Audit Committee

Decision to be taken by: N/A

Date of Meeting: 26th November 2025

Lead director: Amy Oliver, Director of Finance

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Amy Oliver
- Author contact details: amy.oliver@leicester.gov.uk
- Report version number: 1.0

1. Purpose of Report and Summary

- 1.1. The tenure of the current Independent Member of the Governance & Audit Committee has come to an end, and this report deals with the new appointees.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To note the appointment, by the Monitoring Officer, of Seema Jaffer and Mohammed Chunara as Independent Members of the Governance and Audit Committee for a period of 2 years.

3. Report

Summary

- 3.1. In the Terms of Reference for Governance and Audit sets the ability for the Governance and Audit Committee to have up to two independent members. This is recommended as good practice by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and has been an external audit recommendation.
- 3.2. The current independent members term comes to an end at this meeting, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Bipon Bhakri's for his support to the committee over the three-year term.
- 3.3. Over the summer we have recruited two new members to the Committee to start following this meeting. As per the previous process the Chair and Director of Finance identified suitable candidates, and their appointment has been approved by the Monitoring Officer. The Committee is asked to support the two new members in their roles.

4. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implication

4.1. Financial implications

The report provides details on the financial issues.

Amy Oliver, Head of Finance, ext 37 5667

4.2. Legal implications

The Local Government Act 1972 makes provision for the appointment of non-Elected Members to Council Committees, and this is also reflected in the Council's Constitution.

Kamal Adatia, City Barrister & Head of Standards

3rd September 2025

4.3. Equalities implications

There are no direct equality implications arising from the recommendations contained in this report.

Sukhi Biring, Equalities Officer, ext 37 4175

3rd September 2025

4.4. Climate Emergency implications

There are no climate emergency implications arising from this report.

Phil Ball, Sustainability Officer, ext 37 2246

3rd September 2025

4.5. Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

N/A

5. Background papers:

Agendas and Minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meetings

6. Summary of Appendices:

7. Consultations

8. Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?

9. Is this a "key decision"? If so, why? No