

Date: 29 November 2019

Subject: Extension of the Terms of Office of the Independent Member of the Standards Committee and Independent Person for Standards

Report of: Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To request the GMCA to extend the terms of office of Geoff Linnell (the Independent Co-opted Member and Chair of the GMCA Standards Committee) and Nicolē Jackson (the Independent Person for Standards) until the date of the Annual Meeting of the GMCA in 2021.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The GMCA is requested to:

1. Extend the term of office of Geoff Linnell (the Independent Co-opted Member and Chair of the GMCA Standards Committee) until the date of the Annual Meeting of the GMCA in 2021.
2. Extend the term of office of Nicolē Jackson (the Independent Person for Standards) until the date of the Annual Meeting of the GMCA in 2021.

CONTACT OFFICERS:

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Risk Management – none arising out of the report

Legal Considerations – see paragraph 1.1

Financial Consequences – Revenue – Annual Allowances of £1,126 and £901 are paid to Independent Chair and Independent Person respectively

Financial Consequences – Capital – none arising out of the report

Number of attachments included in the report: none

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 18 December 2015

TRACKING/PROCESS		
Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution		No
EXEMPTION FROM CALL IN		
Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency?		No
GM Transport Cttee	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
N/A	N/A	

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Localism Act 2011 requires the GMCA to adopt a Code of Conduct for Members and to have in place arrangements under which allegations of breaches of the Code can be investigated, and decisions made. Those arrangements must include the appointment by the GMCA of at least one independent person.
- 1.2. The role of Independent Person is to assist the GMCA's Monitoring Officer and any Hearing Panel in dealing with allegations that GMCA Members have acted in breach of the GMCA's Code of Conduct.
- 1.3. In December 2015, the GMCA approved the appointment of Nicolé Jackson to act as an Independent Person for a term of office of four years, and Geoff Linnell to act as an Independent Co-opted Member and the Chair of the GMCA's Standards Committee for a term of office of four years.

2. Extension of Term of Office

- 2.1. The current terms of office for both the Independent Person and Independent Co-opted Member & Chair of the Standards Committee are due to expire on 17 December 2019. Both have indicated their willingness to continue for a further term.
- 2.2. It is proposed that their terms of office be extended until the date of the Annual Meeting of the GMCA in 2021, in order to allow for the offices of the independent co-opted member of the Standards Committee and the Independent Person to be advertised with a view to making new appointments with effect from the date of the annual meeting in 2021.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. Recommendations are set out at the beginning of this report.