

## **Information about being a lay member of Flintshire's Governance and Audit Committee**

The Local Government and Elections Act 2021 requires the 22 unitary authorities in Wales to each have an Governance and Audit Committee with a membership being lay members..

Flintshire County Council has for many years had a Governance and Audit Committee. Since 2020 it has consisted of eight Councillors and two lay members. Lay members make a valuable contribution to the work of the Committee and, based on the positive contribution the lay member brings, the Council are seeking to recruit an additional lay member.

The Audit Committee is required to undertake the following functions:-

- a) To review and scrutinise the authority's financial affairs;
- b) To make reports and recommendations in relation to the authority's financial affairs;
- c) To review and assess the risk management, internal control and corporate governance and anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements of the authority;
- d) To make reports and recommendations to the authority on the adequacy and effectiveness of those arrangements;
- e) To oversee the authority's internal/external audit arrangements;
- f) Approve (but not direct) internal audit's strategy, plan and monitor performance;
- g) Receive the annual report from the Internal Audit Manager ;
- h) To review an annual performance self-assessment and draft responses to any panel reports;
- i) Review and assess the Council's ability to effectively handle complaints;
- j) Make reports and recommendations in relation to the authority's ability to handle complaints effectively; and
- k) To review the financial statements prepared by the authority.

The Governance and Audit Committee is supported by the senior Officers of the Council who attend to present reports and answer questions from Committee members. Annually there is usually six meetings of the Committee. The agendas and reports to be considered at the meeting are sent out approximately a week in advance of the meeting. The lay person will be entitled to claim £105 for attending each half day meeting. In the event of the meeting lasting over 4 hours, the payment is £210. Meetings in the future will be hybrid to allow physical and remote attendance.

Agendas and reports of previous Governance and Audit Committee meetings are available on the Council's website ([www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk)). The successful applicant will receive induction training.

For a chat about this role please ring Gary Ferguson 01352 702271, Gareth Owens on 01352 702344 or Lisa Brownbill 01352 702231.

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE CYCLE OF MEETINGS**

Wednesday, 17 November 2021

Wednesday, 26 January 2022

Wednesday, 23 March 2022

Meeting dates to be confirmed for June 2022, July 2022 and September 2022.

All meetings start at 10:00. For some meetings training / briefing sessions may be delivered prior to the Committee meeting starting at 9:30am.