

Committee(s): Policy & Resources Committee – For Information	Dated: 18/02/2021
Subject: City Corporation Member replacing an existing Member on the Impact Investing Institute Board	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	5,6
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	£N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N
Report of: Direct of Innovation and Growth	For Information
Report author: Simon Burns, Innovation and Growth	

Summary

This report details the need to appoint a new Board Member to the Impact Investing Institute (III). We are entitled to this as per the terms of our three-year Grant Agreement with the Institute.

Current Board Member Nicholas Bensted-Smith can no longer attend meetings, due to commitments elsewhere. A replacement is therefore needed to ensure the City Corporation can provide strategic direction to the Institute at Board level as we enter the final year of our Grant Agreement.

Recommendation

Members are asked to approve the appointment of Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney to the III Board. This to ensure the Institute's work continues to be reviewed and supported from a Member with extensive financial services expertise.

Main Report

Background

1. The III was launched in November 2019. It has a brief to mobilise more investment made with the intention to generate positive, measurable social and environmental impact alongside a financial return. It has two additional core funders alongside the City Corporation. These are the Department for Digital, Media, Culture and Sport. And the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

Current Position

2. Since the Institute's launch, Nicholas Bensted-Smith as served as the City Corporation's designated Board Member. His presence has been crucial in

ensuring the strategic priorities of the City Corporation are effectively raised at III Board level.

3. The City Corporation's funding was given to III on the basis it would be used for three purposes. First, to mobilise big pools of capital, by focussing on increasing the impact of big pools of capital by leveraging its connections with institutional investors. Second, to make capital more accountable, by working on initiatives that improve the effectiveness and accountability of capital seeking to have a positive impact. Third, to empower people to save and invest in line with their values, by providing and disseminating information to help people invest with impact.
4. The Board has been the forum for discussing progress made against these three objectives. As Nicholas Bensted-Smith can no longer continue as a Board Member, a replacement must be appointed in his place.

Options

5. The Innovation and Growth Department has considered alternatives considering interest, availability and experience. Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney has expressed an interest in this position as well as holding the relevant skills and experience. Therefore it is recommended that he become III's new Board Member representing the City Corporation.

Proposals

6. Financial year 2021/22 is the last of our current Grant Agreement with III. Following a successful first year we look forward to working with the Institute, building on the solid foundations laid to deliver content capable of mobilising capital for positive social impact now.
7. Alderman Hughes-Penney has expertise in both investment management and impact investing. The former comes from his time working as Investment Director at Rathbone Investment Management. The latter is shown by his past work with the impact investing company, investing for good.

Key Data

8. A final grant report is due from III before the end of our current grant agreement expires, in April 2022. This will reflect on the performance of the Institute against our strategic objectives and agreed milestones.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications – None

Financial implications – None

Resource implications – None

Legal implications – None

Risk implications – None

Equalities implications – None

Climate implications – None

Security implications – None

Conclusion

9. The continuing provision of informed, critical feedback on III's work and strategy at Board level from the City Corporation is essential. The Committee's approval of Alderman Hughes-Penney's appointment to the Institute Board is therefore sought.

Appendices

None

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