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| Committee(s): Audit and Risk Management Committee – for decision Policy & Resources Committee – for decision | Date(s): 28 January 2020 20 February 2020 |
| Subject: Membership Terms for April 2020 Committee Appointments | Public |
| Report of: Town Clerk & Chief Executive | For Decision |
| Report author: Chloe Rew, Committee and Members Services Officer | |

Summary

In April 2020, the terms of six Members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee Member terms are due to expire. This has arisen as a consequence of changes to the Committee's constitution agreed in April 2017, which altered the length of terms from four years down to three, thereby having an impact on the previous "staggering" arrangements in place (such arrangements being generally employed by City Corporation Committees to mitigate against the risk of excessive Member turnover in any one year).

It is therefore requested that the Committee agree to consider staggering the length of terms for appointment in April 2020, which will consequently reintroduce appropriate staggering arrangements and avoid this situation recurring in the future. Moving forward, all new terms would remain as three years.

Recommendation(s)

Members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee are asked to agree that:

1. staggered terms be implemented when Members are elected to the Audit and Risk Management Committee at the Court of Common Council meeting on 23 April 2020;
2. the terms commencing April 2020 will be 4 terms of 3 years; 1 term of 2 years, and 1 term of 1 year; and,
3. all future terms thereafter be for three years.

Main Report

Background

1. The Committee's terms of reference state that, from April 2017, Members of the Court of Common Council are elected for terms of three years. The maximum continuous period of service shall be nine years in any twelve-year period; however, any years spent as Chairman or Deputy Chairman do not contribute to this accumulation of years.

2. This replaced the previous arrangement whereby terms were of four years in length. A consequence of this change was that the differing terms of existing and new Members caused for the existing staggering arrangements to cease to be effective.
3. The staggering of terms is generally employed by City Corporation committees such that, in any one year, a proportion of the committee is up for re-election. For instance, on a committee of 12 Members to which appointments are for four-year terms, it would be desirable for the terms to be staggered such that the terms of three Members would expire each year.
4. This has the benefit of mitigating against the risk of excessive turnover, thereby ensuring an element of continuity is retained in respect of knowledge and experience of the Committee's activities. It also ensures that, in any year, there are a number of vacancies for which new Members can stand.

Current Position

5. The current Committee composition of Members of the Court of Common Council is as follows:
 - Alderman Ian Luder, Chairman – time-limit currently paused as Chairman (current term ends 2021)
 - Alexander Barr, Deputy Chairman – time-limit currently paused as Deputy Chairman (current term ends 2022)
 - *Randall Anderson – term expires 2020*
 - *Alderman Nick Anstee – term expires 2020*
 - *Chris Boden – term expires 2020*
 - Anne Fairweather – term expires 2021
 - *John Garbutt – term expires 2020*
 - *Paul Martinelli – term expires 2020*
 - Andrien Meyers – term expires 2022
 - *John Petrie – term expires 2020*
6. The current external membership of the Committee is as follows:
 - Kenneth Ludlam – term expires 2020
 - Caroline Mawhood – term expires 2021
 - Hilary Daniels, Deputy Chairman (external) – term expires 2022
 - Daniel Worsley – commencing April 2020, term expires 2023
7. The current ex-officio membership is as follows:
 - Jeremy Mayhew, Chairman of Finance Committee
 - Jamie Ingham Clark, Deputy Chairman of Finance Committee
 - Marianne Fredericks, Policy & Resources representative
8. At the meeting of the Court of Common Council on 23 April 2020, as six terms will come to an end, it is recommended that the term limits for these vacancies be 4 terms of 3 years, 1 vacancy of 2 years, and 1 vacancy of 1 year.

9. This approach is consistent with that taken by several newly established or re-constituted City Corporation committees over recent years, such as the Police Committee/Police Authority Board and the Capital Buildings Committee.
10. The allocation of terms would be undertaken according to the usual approved procedures of the Court of Common Council, i.e.:
 - In the event that there are more candidates than places, a vote would take place in the normal fashion with the length of terms awarded to be allocated according to votes received, with the Members receiving the highest number of votes receiving the longer terms.
 - In the event that there are the same (or fewer) number of candidates as places, then no vote will take place and the length of terms will be allocated according to seniority.
11. This recommended configuration would result in 4 terms ending in 2023; 3 terms ending in 2022; and 3 terms ending in 2021. All future terms will be three years.

Conclusion

12. The recommended term lengths for April 2020 appointments to the Audit and Risk Management Committee would ensure that a situation where a high number of terms end in the same year does not occur in the future.

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