

Agenda Item No 8(d)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNCIL

6 December 2017

Report of the Director of Finance and ICT

APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL PENSION BOARD CHAIRMAN

1 Purpose of the Report

To approve the appointment of the Chairman of the Derbyshire Pension Board from 1 April 2018 for a period of up to 4 years, subject to review at 12 and 36 months.

2 Information and Analysis

Background

In April 2015, Council approved the establishment of the Derbyshire Pension Board, as required by the Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2015.

The present Chairman of the Board, Mr Ronald Graham, was appointed for an initial term of one year by the Council at its meeting of 3 June 2015. Mr Graham's term of office was subsequently extended by the Council, at its meeting of 7 December 2016, to 31 March 2018.

A process has now been completed, in advance of the expiry of the current extended contract, to award a new contract from 1 April 2018.

The terms of the new contract include a maximum four year period of tenure for the Chairman, which is consistent with the four year terms of office for the employer and employee representatives on the Board, which were approved by the Council at its meeting of 13 September 2017. However, as the performance of the Chairman is key in ensuring the good governance of the Derbyshire Pension Fund, review breaks at 12 and 36 months have been included in the contract.

Procurement Process

A procurement exercise was undertaken and an open tender process was adopted.

In preparation for Mr Graham's current term of office expiring in March 2018, applications were invited utilising the Council's eTendering system. A detailed specification outlining the personal qualities, knowledge and experience required for the role was compiled and advertised on Source Derbyshire, Linked In and Contracts Finder 6 October 2017, with a closing date of 20 October 2017. The fees payable were fixed at the rate currently paid which is £1000 per day with a maximum of 8 days' work per annum, plus VAT.

A total of 10 individuals expressed an interest, following which 2 applications were received by the deadline of 20 October 2017. Both applications met the standards outlined in the tender documents. The applicants were interviewed on 3 November 2017 and have been evaluated against the initial specification criteria and against their responses to interview questions, which explored their respective approaches to the role.

Ronald Graham achieved the highest overall score. It is proposed, therefore, that Ronald Graham be appointed as the Chairman of the Derbyshire Pension Board.

3 Financial Considerations

The maximum payable will be £8k per annum for up to four years, plus expenses in line with the 'Members Allowance Scheme 1 April 2017'. The costs will be recharged to the Pension Fund.

4 Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property, transport and social value considerations.

5 Officer's Recommendation

That Council approves the appointment of Ronald Graham as Chairman of the Derbyshire Pension Board for a maximum term of 4 years from 1 April 2018, subject to satisfactory review at 12 and 36 months.

PETER HANDFORD

Director of Finance and ICT