



**Council**  
**1 May 2014**  
**Chair's Report – appointments**

<b>Classification</b>	Public
<b>Purpose</b>	For decision
<b>Issue</b>	To obtain approval from Council for the appointment of a new Chair of the Audit Committee, a new Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee, and two new members and Panel Chairs of the Professional Conduct and Health Committees.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To appoint Chris Shapcott as Chair of the Audit Committee from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018.</li><li>2. To appoint Judith Worthington as Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee with immediate effect until 31 March 2016.</li><li>3. To appoint Brian Gomes da Costa and Andrew Skelton as members and Panel Chairs of the Professional Conduct and Health Committees with immediate effect until 31 March 2018.</li></ol>
<b>Financial and resourcing implications</b>	None
<b>Equality and diversity implications</b>	None
<b>Communications implications</b>	None
<b>Annexes</b>	None
<b>Authors</b>	Alison White

## Background

1. A vacancy will arise for the position of Chair of the Audit Committee when Jane Hern steps down on 31 March 2015. The position is a non-statutory appointment.
2. The current membership of the Committee comprises two members of Council and two external members. One of the two external members is appointed as Chair of the Committee. The Governance Handbook is silent on who appoints the Chair, but custom and practice would suggest it should be Council on the recommendation of the Chair of Council.
3. A vacancy arose earlier this year for the post of Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee. The appointment process required the appointment of at least one new lay member and it was agreed to seek two new lay members who might also take the role of Panel Chairs.

## Discussion

### *Audit Committee*

4. The Remuneration and Appointments Committee considered the appropriate approach to filling the vacancy at its July Meeting. It concluded that in the first instance the opportunity should be given to the other external member to express an interest in the post.
5. The other external member is Chris Shapcott. He is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and an independent consultant. From 1976 to 2012 Chris Shapcott worked for the National Audit Office in a variety of roles; from 2004-07 he was Director, Health Value for Money, from 2007-09 Director, Regulation and from 2009-12 Director, Regulatory Reform. There is no question that he is appropriately qualified for the position.
6. I took the opportunity to discuss the position with Chris Shapcott when he attended the July Council meeting. I also discussed the appointment with other members of the Audit Committee.
7. On this basis I propose that Council appoint Chris Shapcott as Chair for a period that would be co-terminous with his current period of appointment.
8. If Council accept my recommendation, then the recruitment process will commence for a new external member to serve on the Committee from 1 April 2015.

### *Professional Conduct Committee (PCC)*

9. The Constitution of Statutory Committees Order requires the Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee to be appointed from among the Panel Chairs who in turn must be appointed from among the lay members of the Committee.

10. In order to enable both an open competition for the post of Committee Chair and to enable existing members and panel chairs to apply, a multi-stage appointment process was undertaken which commenced in July and concluded in October. The appointment panel consisted of Jorge Esteves, Ian Muir (external lay member of the Remuneration and Appointments Committee) and myself.
11. The result of this process is the recommendation for the appointment of an existing PCC member and Panel Chair, Judith Worthington, to the post of Chair.
12. In addition, two new lay members are recommended for appointment to the Professional Conduct Committee and to the Health Committee (the committees have shared membership). They are Professor Brian Gomes da Costa and Andrew Skelton. Summary CVs can be found at the Annex.
13. The two new members are also recommended for appointment as Panel Chairs for the PCC and HC.
14. All of the PCC appointments are proposed with immediate effect. The proposed term length for Judith Worthington is to 31 March 2016 which is co-terminous with her current period of appointment to the PCC. The proposed term length for Brian Gomes da Costa and Andrew Skelton is to 31 March 2018.

**Recommendations:**

1. To appoint Chris Shapcott as Chair of the Audit Committee from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2018.
2. To appoint Judith Worthington as Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee with immediate effect until 31 March 2016.
3. To appoint Brian Gomes da Costa and Andrew Skelton as members and Panel Chairs of the Professional Conduct and Health Committees with immediate effect until 31 March 2018.

### Summary CVs for new appointees

#### *Brian Gomes da Costa*

Professor Gomes da Costa is the retired principal of Bath Spa University who held previous senior appointments at Robert Gordon University and Luton University.

He is a former magistrate, Immigration and Asylum Tribunal member and General Medical Council fitness to practise panel member.

His other current appointments are as a lay assessor for the Academy of Health Sciences and a compensation panel assessor for the proposed HS2 rail line.

#### *Andrew Skelton*

Andrew Skelton is the former Director of Nursing of Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Trust with a background in mental health nursing.

He currently holds appointments as a panel member for both the Nursing and Midwifery Council and the General Dental Council, and as a Mental Health Act Commissioner.

He works as a Specialist Adviser to the Care Quality Commission and an Associate Investigator into Mental health Homicide cases for the Health and Social Care Advisory Service.