

Council, 3 December 2013

Audit Committee Chair

Executive summary and recommendations

### **Introduction**

The changes being made to the composition of the Council will require the newly appointed Council to appoint the chairs of its committees. In consequence, there will be a brief period during which no such appointment has been made but where the outgoing committee chair has stood down from the Council and is therefore no longer in the role of chair the Committee.

This is an inevitable consequence of the change that is taking place. Provided that appointments are made promptly and committee chairs are able to assume their role in time for the next scheduled meeting of the relevant committee, it does not create any practical difficulty.

The one exception is the Audit Committee Chair. As well as chairing the Committee's proceedings, the Audit Committee Chair has an ongoing role in liaising with the auditors in relation to the HCPC's financial affairs and to whom any 'whistle-blower' within the organization would report concerns.

As a contingency arrangement to ensure that there is no vacancy in that position, it would be prudent for the Chair of the Council to be given the power, on a transitional basis, to appoint a person as Audit Committee Chair.

### **Decision**

The Council is invited to discuss and to agree the following.

- That until such time as the new members of the Council are appointed and the Council is able to appoint the Chair of the Audit Committee, the Council's power to appoint the Chair of that Committee may be exercised by the Chair of the Council.
- That any such appointment shall be made in writing and expressed to be of a transitional nature and the Chair of the Council shall report on any exercise of that power to the next meeting of the Council which follows any such appointment.

### **Resource implications**

None.

**Financial implications**

None.

**Appendices**

None.

**Date of paper**

22 November 2013