

AUDIT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

MONDAY, 17 APRIL 2023

Present:-

Cllr. Shane Blackwell (Chairman)

Cllr. Nick Chapman

Cllr. Mark Jackson

Officers present:-

Nick Brown	- Finance Group Manager
Caroline Harbour	- Environmental Health, Housing, Net Zero & Community Services Group Manager
Louisa Horton	- Corporate Services Group Manager & Monitoring Officer
Phil Fasham	- Environmental Health Manager
Kerry Beavis	- Senior Auditor
Isaac Thomas	- Democracy Support Officer
Nicole Cramp	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer

Also in attendance :-

Cllr. Maggie Wright (Deputy Leader) – Finance, People & Performance Portfolio Holder

Apologies:-

Cllr. Stuart Coar, Cllr. Paul Hartshorn and Cllr. Kirsteen Thomson

246. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures were received.

247. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2023, as circulated, were approved as correct record.

248. CHANGE IN ORDER OF AGENDA

The Chairman announced that Agenda Item 9 'Internal Audit Progress Report 2022/23 Q4' would be taken before Agenda item 4 'Accounting Policies 2022/23' .

249. ACCOUNTING POLICIES 2022/23

Considered – Report of the Finance Group Manager.

DECISION

That the accounting policies set out in Appendix A of the report be approved.

Reasons:

1. The council should select appropriate accounting policies to be applied in preparation and presentation of its annual Statement of accounts.
2. It is considered good practice for the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee to review and comment upon the proposed accounting policies to be used in the preparation of the council's annual accounts.

250. RISK MANAGEMENT Q4 2022/23

Considered – Report of the Finance Group Manager.

The Finance Group Manager provided an update on the corporate risk register. A total of 12 high risks, 9 medium and 1 low risk creating a total of 22 risks.

The Finance Group Manager advised the committee that future Risk Management Reports may have a new appearance as the information will be collated from the new Pentana system.

DECISION

That the latest information in respect of the Council's major corporate risks be accepted.

Reason:

The overview of the Council's risk management processes is a key responsibility of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee.

251. LOCAL AUDIT DELAYS

Considered – Report of the Finance Group Manager.

DECISION

That the impact of local audit delays and expected outcomes of the Redmond Review be noted by the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee.

Reason:

To ensure that the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee is appraised of the latest position regarding the audit of accounts and likely implications arising from the Redmond Review.

252. 2023-24 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN

Considered – Report of the Shared Service Audit Manager.

DECISIONS

1. That the report be noted by the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee.
2. That the 2023/24 Internal Audit Annual Audit Plan be approved.

Reason:

To comply with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

253. CIPFA POSITION STATEMENT: AUDIT COMMITTEES IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE 2022

Considered – Report of the Shared Service Audit Manager.

DECISIONS

1. That the report be noted by the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee.
2. That the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee Agree to establish a cross party member working group, to be drawn from the audit and governance committee appointed at council on 23 May 2023, to work with the audit manager and the Strategic Director (S151 Officer) to undertake a self-assessment and training needs analysis and report back to the meeting of Audit and Corporate Governance Committee at the July meeting.
3. That the process for the recruitment of independent members to the committee be agreed.

Reason:

To ensure compliance with recommended good practice.

254. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2022/23 Q4

Considered - Report of the Shared Service Audit Manager.

DECISION

That the Internal Audit Progress report 2022/23 Q4 be noted.

Reason:

To keep the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee informed of progress and recent Internal Audit findings and recommendations, in line with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards requirements.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.30 P.M.