

AUDIT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

TUESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2023

Present:-

Cllr. Mark Jackson (Chairman)
Cllr. Mike Shirley (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr. Lee Breckon JP

Cllr. Richard Holdridge

Cllr. Dillan Shikotra

Officers present:-

Sarah Pennelli	- Executive Director - S.151 Officer
Nick Brown	- Finance Group Manager
Katie Hollis	- Accountancy Services Manager
Kerry Beavis	- Shared Service Audit Manager
Rose Carrier	- Shared Service Auditor
Nicole Cramp	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer
Isaac Thomas	- Democracy Support Officer

Also in attendance as observers:-

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

Apologies:-

Cllr. Roger Stead

121. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures were received.

122. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2023, as circulated, were approved as a correct record.

123. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO THE AUDIT & CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Considered – Report of the Executive Director (Section 151 Officer).

Cllr. Mark Jackson thanked the interview panel for their preparation and time taken to conduct the interviews.

DECISION

That members of the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee recommend to Council that Helen King is appointed as an Independent Member to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee.

Reason:

It is best practice for an Independent Member to be appointed to the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee. The recruitment process was designed to ensure that the successful candidate held the required skills to be appointed.

124. RISK MANAGEMENT Q2 2023/24

Considered – Report of the Finance Group Manager.

The Finance Group Manager provided an update on the new Audit Scale Fee. The Audit Scale Fee has increased to £139,897.

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.

125. UPDATE ON PROGRESS TOWARDS AUDIT OF COUNCIL'S ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Considered – Report of the Finance Group Manager.

The Finance Group Manager provided an update on the increased costs for the Audit Scale Fee. The Fee has increased to £139,897 which is within the estimated budget we allowed for being £175,000.

DECISION

That the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee note the impact of local audit delays; the report of Ernst & Young and also note the scale of future audit fees.

Reason:

To ensure that the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee is appraised of the latest position regarding the audit of the Council's Statement of Accounts.

126. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT Q2 2023/24

Considered – Report of the Shared Service Audit Manager.

DECISION

That the Internal Audit progress report 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 6.27 P.M.