

# EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Audit Committee held in the Coltman VC Room at the Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

### **Present:**

Councillors E Barker (Chairman), A. A. Chaudhry, T Hadley, P Hudson, C Sylvester and Mrs B Toon.

### **Officers Present:**

The Head of Service (Sal Khan), the Chief Accountant and the Senior Democratic Services Officer.

### **Also Present:**

R Deo and M Watkins (Internal Auditor - CW Audit) and S Jassel (Grant Thornton).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Fitzpatrick and S Gaskin.

#### 01/22 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting.

#### 02/22 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Councillor C Sylvester was appointed vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

#### 03/22 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business submitted to the meeting pursuant to Rule 12.

#### 04/22 **DRAFT AUDIT COMMITTEE TRAINING**

A draft training plan was circulated by the Chief Accountant prior to the meeting, outlining training suggestions that had been identified based on the planned audit work of the Committee over the course of the financial year.

### **Resolved:**

Members accepted the plan.

#### 05/22 **EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN – YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022**

The representative from Grant Thornton gave a short presentation on their progress in delivering their responsibilities as external auditors. She reported on the progress to date, results of their interim audit work and any emerging issues and development.

An opportunity for questions followed.

**NOTED**

06/22 **HEAD OF INTERNAL AUDIT OPINION REPORT**

(CW Audit) The Internal Auditor gave a short presentation on the annual report of Head of Internal Audit Opinion 2021/22 to East Staffordshire Borough Council summarising the activities of Internal Audit for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

The Public Sector Internal Audit Standards required that the Head of Internal Audit provided a written report to those charged with governance, to support the Annual Governance Statement.

Members considered the opinion, together with management assurances, its own knowledge of the organisation and assurances received throughout the year from other review bodies when producing its Annual Governance Statement. A summary of the work the internal audit performed and delivered against the plan was provided in the report.

An opportunity for questions followed.

**NOTED**

07/22 **REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT**

Members considered the report of the Chief Finance Officer in accord with the Council's financial regulations, presenting the forecast outturn position in relation to the Council's revenue budget, capital programme of expenditure and treasury management activities.

The Chief Accountant gave a short presentation on the fourth and final report in the annual cycle of financial monitoring for the financial year 2021/22.

An opportunity for questions followed.

**NOTED**

08/22 **ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT**

The Chief Accountant presented the Annual Treasury Management providing a review of treasury activities during the year against the approved Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS).

An opportunity for questions followed.

**Resolved:**

Members reviewed the Annual Treasury Management Report 2021/22 as set out in the Report, and recommended it to full Council.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor E Barker		
Councillor A A Chaudhry		
Councillor T Hadley		
Councillor P Hudson		

Councillor C Sylvester		
Councillor Mrs B Toon		

09/22 **GOVERNANCE REPORT**

Members were requested to consider the Annual Governance Statement along with the supporting process to ensure they were independently reviewed and approved.

**Resolved:**

That Audit Committee approved the Annual Governance Statement.

Voting concerning the above decision was as follows:

Those voting for the motion	Those voting against	Those abstaining
Councillor E Barker		
Councillor A A Chaudhry		
Councillor T Hadley		
Councillor P Hudson		
Councillor C Sylvester		
Councillor Mrs B Toon		

10/22 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved:**

That the next meeting take place on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 6.30pm in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent.

**Chairman**