

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCRUTINY (AUDIT AND VALUE FOR MONEY COUNCIL SERVICES) COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee held in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on 13th February 2019.

Present:

Councillors D. Goodfellow (Chairman), M. J. Bowering, A. A. Chaudhry, M. Fitzpatrick, D. F. Fletcher, D. Florence-Jukes, H. Hall, Mrs J. Killoran, L. Milner, C. Smith and Mrs B. Toon.

Officers Present:

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G. Allen, S. Andjelkovic, P. Hudson and G. Marjoram.

Also Present:

Mr M. Stocks (Grant Thornton) and Mr R. Elliott (Independent Member).

179/19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor A. A. Chaudhry declared a personal interest in respect of EDR ref. no. 980/18 at item 10 – Public Executive Decision Records. There were no discussions thereon.

180/19 **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the Public Minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee held on 18th December 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

181/19 **URGENT BUSINESS**

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

182/19 **EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN**

(Grant Thornton) The representative from Grant Thornton gave an overview of the planned scope and timing of their audit. A report outlining the consequences of their work, to discuss issues of risk, the concept of materiality with them, and to identify any areas to undertake additional procedures, was submitted prior to the meeting for Members consideration.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

183/19 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND STATEMENT AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2019/2020**

The Chief Accountant presented the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and the Annual Investment Strategy 2019/20, which fulfils various statutory requirements and best practice guidelines in respect of the Council's Treasury activities and also its capital investment plans.

An opportunity for questions followed.

Resolved:

That Members noted the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and the Annual Investment Strategy and did not make any comments or observations to full Council.

184/19 **REVIEW OF MEMBERS REPRESENTATIONS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Corporate and Commercial Manager circulated a survey to the relevant Members who sat on Outside Bodies organisations to gather their feedbacks.

The Corporate and Commercial Manager reported that he had received responses from some Members but not from others. He requested that he categorised the various outside bodies and report back to the next meeting of the Committee.

It was agreed that the Chairman would write to Members prompting them to complete the survey.

Resolved:

That the Corporate and Commercial Manager would circulate a draft final report on the representations on outside bodies with the next agenda, for Members comments.

185/19 **REVIEW OF SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS**

The Chairman requested that this item be deferred until the next Municipal year.

186/19 **SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

The Corporate and Commercial Manager reported that there were no further updates on the scrutiny work programme, and requested Members gave consideration for topics for review that could be placed on the work programme the next Municipal year.

Councillor Chaudhry requested an update on the outcome of the scrutiny reviews undertaken by the Committee and were recommended to Cabinet.

It was agreed that the Deputy Leader for Cultural Services be invited to the next meeting of the Committee regarding the leisure centre transfer management to SLM.

187/19 **PUBLIC EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS**

Members considered the Private Executive Decision Records.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

188/19 **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions submitted to the Committee prior to the meeting.

189/19 **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:

That the next meeting take place on Monday 25th March 2019 at 6.30pm in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent.

190/19 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting during discussion of the following items as it would likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets before each item number on the Agenda:

PRIVATE MINUTES

PRIVATE EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS

191/19 **PRIVATE MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the Private Minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee held on 18th December 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

192/19 **PRIVATE EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS**

Members considered the Private Executive Decision Records.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

Chairman