

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 13th June 2017.

Present:

Councillors L. Milner (Chairman), G. Allen, A. A. Chaudhry, R. Faulkner, M. Fitzpatrick, S. Gaskin (for Minute Nos. 98/17 to 109/17), D. Goodfellow and Mrs H. Hall.

Independent Members:

Mrs A. Johnson and Mr B. Jones.

Officers Present:

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

Also Present:

Mr T. Ridout (Internal Auditor - CW Audit) and Mrs J. Barnett (Grant Thornton).

98/17 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

99/17 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Councillor R. Faulkner was appointed vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

100/17 **URGENT BUSINESS**

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

101/17 **MINUTES**

That the Minutes of the meetings held 22nd May 2017 were approved and signed as a correct record.

102/17 **EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE**

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

103/17 **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 2016/17 to East Staffordshire Borough Council summarising the activities of Internal Audit for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017.

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

104/17 **PROGRESS REPORT**

(CW Audit) The Internal Auditor gave a report summarising the work of internal audit, outlining the progress against the audit plan, the key findings and conclusions arising from their work, details of planned work and to update the Committee on the progress made in implementing previously agreed recommendations.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

105/17 **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 2016/2017.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

106/17 **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 2016/17 as set out in the Report, and recommended it to full Council.

107/17 **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.

108/17 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:

That the next meeting take place on Tuesday 25th July 2017 at 6.30pm in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent.

109/17 **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 MINUTE

Chairman