

# 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 at the Town Hall, Burton upon Trent on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

### **Present:**

Councillors S. Smith (Chairman), S. Andjelkovic, M. J. Bowering, A. A. Chaudhry, M. Fitzpatrick, D. F. Fletcher, D. Goodfellow, Mrs H. Hall, P. Hudson, Mrs J. Killoran and Mrs B. Toon.

### **Officers Present:**

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

### **Also Present:**

Mr T. Ridout (Internal Auditor - CW Audit)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S. Gaskin, A. Johnson, L. Milner and C Smith and Mrs A. Johnson and Dr B. Jones (Independent Members).

### 16/17 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

### 17/17 **URGENT BUSINESS**

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

### 18/17 **MINUTES**

#### **Resolved:**

- (1) That the minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record;
- (2) That the minutes of the meeting of the Audit (Approval of Statement of Accounts) Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.

### 19/17 **PROGRESS REPORT**

(CW Audit) The Internal Auditor gave a report summary of 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**

20/17 **REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT – QUARTER 1**

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 first quarterly report in the annual cycle of financial monitoring for the financial year 2017/2018.

An opportunity for questions followed.

**NOTED**

21/17 **APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS 2018/19 ONWARDS**

Members received a verbal update from the Chief Accountant following the decision taken by full Council in December 2016 to opt-in to the sector led approach to the appointment of external auditors for the financial year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018.

The Chief Accountant informed Members that she had been notified by the PSAA that Grant Thornton had been provisionally chosen as external auditors for East Staffordshire Borough Council 2018/19 onwards.

An opportunity for questions followed.

**NOTED**

22/17 **PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 1**

The Report of Sal Khan, Head of Service, regarding the Quarter 1 Performance was considered. The Programmes and Transformation Officer provided an overview of the report to the committee.

An opportunity for questions followed.

Councillor Goodfellow enquired about VFM03, the leisure delivery review. He requested that the appropriate Cabinet Member be invited to a future meeting to update Members.

It was agreed that the Deputy Leader for Cultural Services would be invited to a future meeting of the Committee.

**NOTED**

22/17 **REVIEW OF COUNCIL INCOME GENERATION**

The Corporate and Commercial Manager informed Members that the sub-group, Councillors Ms S. Andjelkovic, M. Bowering, M. Fitzpatrick and D. Fletcher had met prior to the meeting, to discuss their findings. Notes of the meeting was circulated to Members at the meeting.

Discussions took place.

An opportunity for questions followed.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the Senior Democratic Services Officer arranged a meeting of the sub-group prior to the next meeting of the Committee.
- (2) That Members send topics for future reviews to the Corporate and Commercial Manager for discussion to a future meeting of the Committee.

23/17 **PUBLIC EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS**

Members considered the Public Executive Decision Records.

An opportunity for questions followed.

**NOTED**

24/17 **QUESTIONS**

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

25/17 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved:**

That the next meeting take place on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 6.30pm in the Meeting Room, Brewhouse, Burton upon Trent.

26/17 **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 MINUTES**

**PRIVATE EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS**

**Chairman**