

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 23rd September 2019.

Present:

Councillors P. Hudson (Chairman), S. Andjelkovic, Mrs B. Ashcroft, Mrs B. Brady, A. A. Chaudhry, A. Clarke, M. Fitzpatrick, D. F. Fletcher, D. Florence-Jukes, S. Gaskin, Mrs V. J. Gould, H. Hall, M. Metcalfe, G. Raybould, S. Sankey and C. Sylvester.

Officers Present:

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

Also Present:

Head of Service (Mark Rizk), James Abbott (Leisure Services Contract Manager), Mr T. Ridout (Internal Auditor), Mr D. Rowley (Grant Thornton), Mr S. Morgan (Contract Manager - SLM) and Mr S. Fearn (Area Manager SLM).

An apology for absence was received from Mr R. Elliott (Independent Member).

33/19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

34/19 **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the Public Minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny (Audit and Value for Money Council Services) Committee held on 23rd July 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit (Statement of Accounts) Committee held on 23rd July 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

35/19 **URGENT BUSINESS**

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

36/19 **THE ANNUAL EXTERNAL LETTER 2018/19**

(Grant Thornton) The representative from Grant Thornton gave an overview regarding the annual external letter 2018/2019, summarising the key findings arising from their work carried out at the Council for the year end 31st March 2019.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED.

37/19 **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

38/19 **INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL SATISFACTION SURVEY REPORT**

(CW Audit) The Internal Auditor gave a short presentation on the annual internal audit satisfaction survey for 2018/2019, for information.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

39/19 **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 first quarterly report in the annual cycle of financial monitoring for the financial year 2018/2019.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

40/19 **PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 1**

The Report of Sal Khan, Head of Service, regarding the Quarter 1 Performance was considered. The Corporate and Commercial Manager provided an overview of the report to the committee.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

41/19 **REVIEW OF DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT – SCOPING PAPER**

The Corporate and Commercial Manager updated the Committee on the review of the disabled facilities grant. He reported that a meeting would take place with the sub-group week commencing 30th September 2019, and the scoping paper for the review would be circulated prior to the next meeting.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

42/19 **REVIEW OF OPERATION OF THE COUNCIL'S CAR PARKS – SCOPING PAPER**

The Corporate and Commercial Manager updated the Committee on the review of the operation of the Council's car parks. He reported that a meeting had taken place with the sub-group and a further meeting has been arranged. The scoping had been prepared and would be circulated prior to the next meeting, along with further updates.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

43/19 **SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

Members received an update on the scrutiny work programme circulated with the agenda.

The Corporate and Commercial Manager reported that the review on Members on Outside Organisations review had been presented to Cabinet. All the recommendations was accepted by Members of Cabinet with a couple of minor amendments.

The Committee agreed with Cabinet that SARAC would remain on the Members outside organisation list, therefore making the list 16 instead of 15.

Discussions took place and an opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

44/19 **PUBLIC EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS**

Members considered the Public Executive Decision Records.

An opportunity for questions followed.

NOTED

45/19 **QUESTIONS**

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

46/19 **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:

That the next meeting take place on Tuesday 20th November 2019 at 6.30pm in the Coltman VC Room, Town Hall, Burton upon Trent.

47/19 **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

LEISURE MANAGEMENT CONTRACTOR REPORT

PRIVATE EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORDS

Chairman