

**MINUTES OF THE AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE
HELD ON**

3 March 2021

7.30 - 8.18 pm

PRESENT

Committee Members

Councillor Stefan Mullard (Chair)
Councillor Jean Clark
Councillor Jodi Dunne
Councillor Maggie Hulcoop
Councillor Eddie Johnson
Councillor Russell Perrin
Councillor Chris Vince

Officers

Hannah Criddle, Governance Support Officer
Emma Crouch, Corporate Support Officer
Natalie Hook, Senior Auditor
Simon Freeman, Head of Finance and Deputy to the Chief Executive
Simon Hill, Head of Governance
Sarah Marsh, Internal Audit Manager

Also Present

Steve Bladen, BDO

42. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Simon Carter, Michael Hardware and Shannon Jezzard.

43. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

44. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2020 are agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

45. **MATTERS ARISING**

a) Minute 34 - Audited Annual Accounts 2018/19

Councillor Perrin asked whether the final 2018/19 Statement of Accounts had been now been approved. Steve Bladen, BDO, advised that the opinion hadn't been issued yet as there were two outstanding issues being

looked into one of which was close to being resolved following further work by council officers.

Councillor Perrin also asked when the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts would come to the Committee. Simon Freeman, Deputy to the Chief Executive and Head of Finance and Property Services, advised that it was expected that the Accounts would be reported to Committee in November 2021.

46. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

None.

47. **NON CONTENTIOUS BUSINESS**

None.

48. **INTERNAL AUDIT STRATEGY AND PLAN 2021/22**

The Committee received a report on the Internal Audit Strategy and Plan for 2021/22.

RESOLVED that:

A The effectiveness and contribution for the Internal Audit Strategy and Plan within the Council's assurance framework be considered.

B The Committee approved the Audit Strategy and Plan for 2021/22.

49. **PERIOD 11 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY REPORT 2020/21**

The Committee received a report on the Period 11 Internal Audit Activity 2020/21.

RESOLVED that:

A The Committee reviewed the outcomes of the work of the Internal Audit service for the period December 2020 to March 2021 and identified any issues for further consideration.

50. **COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

The Committee received its current work plan.

RESOLVED that the work plan is noted.

51. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

52. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE