

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

18 September 2024

7.00 - 7.38 pm

PRESENT

Committee Members

Councillor Matthew Saggars (Chair)
Councillor Dr. Emma Ghaffari (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Jodi Dunne
Councillor Michael Garnett
Councillor Michael Houlihan
Councillor Aiden O'Dell
Councillor Russell Perrin
Laura Kirman

Officers

Natalie Hook, Senior Auditor
Sarah Marsh, Head of Internal Audit
Adam Rees, Senior Governance Support Officer
Jacqui Van Mellaerts, Assistant Director - Finance
Tanusha Waters, Assistant Director - Planning and Building Control

16. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stefan Mullard-Toal and Stacy Seales.

17. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

18. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2024 are agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

19. **MATTERS ARISING**

None.

20. **WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

None.

21. **NON CONTENTIOUS BUSINESS**

None.

22. **INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received an Internal Audit progress report. Internal Audit verbally updated the Committee that the Waste Contract management and Treasury Management recommendations have now been completed on the Audit Tracker.

RESOLVED that the Committee noted the report.

23. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Committee received the risk management report.

RESOLVED that the Committee noted the current strategic risk register for the council's operations included in Appendix B to the report.

24. **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS - VERBAL UPDATE**

Jacqui Van Mellaerts, Assistant Director – Finance, gave a verbal update on the finalising of statement of accounts for 2023/24 and the position of prior year outstanding Audits. The audit backstop dates for accounts up to 2022/23, has been moved back to 13 December 2024. The backstop for the 2023/24 audited accounts has been brought forward to February 2025. Future governance requirements need to be finalised and the Committee will be updated.

25. **COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

The Committee received its current work plan.

RESOLVED that the work plan is noted.

26. **REFERENCES FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

27. **MATTERS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE