



Audit and Governance Committee

A meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee will be held at the The Jeffrey Room - The Guildhall, Northampton, NN1 1DE on Wednesday 14 June 2023 at 6.00 pm

Agenda

1.	Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitute Members
2.	Declarations of Interest Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.
3.	Minutes (Pages 5 - 10) To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 1 st March 2023.
4.	Chair's Announcements To receive communications from the Chair.
5.	Urgent Business The Chair to advise whether they have agreed to any items of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.
6.	Local Government Ombudsman report (Pages 11 - 30) Report of the Assistant Director of Customer and Corporate Services
7.	Information Governance Report (Pages 31 - 38)
8.	Update on Governance

	Update from the Deputy Director Law and Governance
9.	Internal Audit Plan 2023-24 (Pages 39 - 54) Report by the Chief Internal Auditor
10.	Internal Audit Progress report (Pages 55 - 58) Report by the Chief Internal Auditor
11.	Audit and Governance Committee Annual report 2022-23 (Pages 59 - 74)
12.	Annual Audit Report (WNC) 2021-22 (Grant Thornton) (Pages 75 - 128) Update by the External Auditor
13.	External Audit Progress report (Grant Thornton) (Pages 129 - 148) Update by the External Auditor
14.	External Audit Progress Report (Ernst Young) Update by the External Auditor
15.	Update on Budget Setting and Revenue and Capital Medium term Capital Programme Verbal update
16.	Review of Committee Work Programme (Pages 149 - 152) To review and note the Committee Work Programme.
17.	<p>Exclusion of the Press and Public</p> <p>The following report(s) contain exempt information as defined in the following paragraph(s) of Part 1, Schedule 12A of Local Government Act 1972.</p> <p>Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.</p> <p>Members are reminded that whilst the following item(s) have been marked as exempt, it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider each of them in private or in public. In making the decision, members should balance the interests of individuals or the Council itself in having access to the information. In considering their discretion members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.</p>

Should Members decide not to make a decision in public, they are recommended to resolve as follows:

“That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that, if the public and press were present, it would be likely that exempt information falling under the provisions of Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraph(s) 3 would be disclosed to them, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.”

18. Exempt Appendices to Internal Audit Update report (Pages 153 - 156)

Catherine Whitehead
Proper Officer
6 June 2023

Audit and Governance Committee Members:

Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift (Chair)	Councillor Charles Manners (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Jamal Alwahabi	Councillor Alan Chantler
Councillor Stephen Clarke	Councillor Keith Holland-Delamere
Councillor Mark Hughes	Councillor Rosie Humphreys
Councillor Sam Rumens	

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence and the appointment of substitute Members should be notified to democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare that fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Evacuation Procedure

If a continuous fire alarm sounds you must evacuate the building via the nearest available

fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the assembly area as directed by Democratic Services staff and await further instructions.

Access to Meetings

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Mobile Phones

Please ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off.

Queries Regarding this Agenda

If you have any queries about this agenda please contact Sofia Neal-Gonzalez, Democratic Services via the following:

Tel: 01327 302236

Email: democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk

Or by writing to:

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