

# Audit and Governance Committee

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

### Agenda

| 1. | Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitute Members   |
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| 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 25 <sup>th</sup> January 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. | Internal Audit Progress report (Pages 11 - 14)   |
| 7. | External Audit Progress report - Grant Thornton  |
| 8. | External Audit Progress report - EY  |

| 9.  | Budget setting update  |
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| 10. | Risk progress update (Pages 15 - 24)   |
| 11. | Work Programme (Pages 25 - 28)   |
|     | To review and note the Committee Work Programme.   |
| 12. | Exclusion of the Press and Public (Pages 29 - 30)  |
|     | The following report(s) contain exempt information as defined in the following paragraph(s) of Part 1, Schedule 12A of Local Government Act 1972.  |
|     | 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.  |
|     | Members are reminded that whilst the following item(s) have been marked as exempt<br>it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider each of them in private or in<br>public. In making the decision, members should balance the interests of individuals o<br>the Council itself in having access to the information. In considering their discretion<br>members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.   |
|     | 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<br>excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that, it<br>the public and press were present, it would be likely that exempt information falling<br>under the provisions of Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraph(s) 3 would be disclosed to<br>them, and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining<br>the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information." |
| 13. | Private Minutes of the Audit & Governance Committee held on 25th January 2023 (Pages 31 - 34)  |
| 14. | Exempt Appendices to Internal Audit Update report (Pages 35 - 40)  |

### Audit and Governance Committee Members:

Councillor Cecile Irving-Swift (Chair)

Councillor Charles Manners (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Jamal Alwahabi Councillor Rosie Humphreys Councillor Jake Roberts Councillor Alan Chantler Councillor John Shephard Councillor Stephen Clarke Councillor Danielle Stone

### Information about this Agenda

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence and the appointment of substitute Members should be notified to <u>democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk</u> 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**

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### **Queries Regarding this Agenda**

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

Email: <a href="mailto:democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk">democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk</a>

Or by writing to:

West Northamptonshire Council One Angel Square Angel Street Northampton NN1 1ED