

Committee: Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee
Date: Wednesday 23 September 2015
Time: 6.30 pm
Venue: Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA

Membership

Councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes (Chairman)	Councillor Rose Stratford (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Colin Clarke	Councillor Ray Jelf
Councillor Nicholas Mawer	Councillor Barry Richards
Councillor Lawrie Stratford	Councillor Barry Wood

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. Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chairman to report on any requests to submit petitions or to address the meeting.

4. Urgent Business

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

5. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 June 2015.

6. Chairman's Announcements

To receive communications from the Chairman.

7. Statement of Accounts 2014-15 (Pages 5 - 8)

** Please note that Appendices 1 & 2 to this report will follow as they are currently being finalised **

Report of the Director of Resources.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to obtain official sign-off by the Chief Financial Officer and the Chairman of Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee on the audited Statement of Accounts 2014-15.

Recommendations

1.1 The Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee is recommended to approve the amendments to the draft 2014-15 financial statements.

8. External Audit Audit Results Report 2014-15 (Pages 9 - 12)

** Please note that Appendices 1 & 2 to this report will follow as they are currently being finalised **

Report of the Director of Resources.

Purpose of Report

To allow Members to consider the Ernst and Young LLP Results Report. This includes comments on the external audit of the 2014-15 Statement of Accounts.

Recommendations

The Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee is recommended to:

1.1 consider the matters raised in the report before approving the 2014-15 financial statements

1.2 note of the adjustments to the financial statements set out in Ernst Young's report in appendix 1

1.3 approve the letter of representation on behalf of the Council as set out in appendix 2.

9. Internal Audit Progress Report 2015-16 (Pages 13 - 22)

Report of the Director of Resources.

Purpose of Report

To receive the PwC Internal Audit Annual Report.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 to consider and note the contents of the Progress Report.

10. First Quarter Risk Review 2015-16 & Update on Development of Risk & Opportunities Management Strategy (Pages 23 - 40)

Report of the Head of Transformation.

Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on the management of Strategic, Corporate and Partnership risks during the first quarter of 2015/16 and to report the progress made on the 2015/16 Risk & Opportunities Management Strategy review, Risk Training programme and Internal Audit review.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended to:

- 1.1 Review the quarter 1 Strategic, Corporate and Partnership Risk Register and identify any issues for further consideration or referral to Executive.
- 1.2 Note that there have been changes to two shared risks' scores, one increase and one decrease.
- 1.3 Note that two Partnership risks, previously "common" to both Authorities, are now Council specific to better reflect the different structure/circumstances at each Authority.
- 1.4 Note the progress made on the 2015/16 Risk and Opportunities Management Strategy review, the 2015/16 Risk Training Programme and the 2014/15 Risk Audit.

11. Corporate Fraud Team Quarterly Update (Pages 41 - 54)

Report of the Head of Finance and Procurement.

Purpose of Report

To provide members of Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee with an update on the joint Corporate Fraud team including progress made on the team's business plan for 2015-2016.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the contents of the report.

12. Q1 Treasury Management Report (Pages 55 - 60)

Report of the Director of Resources.

Purpose of Report

To receive information on treasury management performance and compliance with treasury management policy for 2015/16 for Quarter 1 as required by the Treasury Management Code of Practice.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the contents of the Quarter 1 (Q1) Treasury Report.

13. Work Programme 2015 - 2016 (Pages 61 - 62)

To note the Committee's work programme.

14. Exclusion of Press and Public

The following item contains exempt information as defined in the following paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of Local Government Act 1972.

3– Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Members are reminded that whilst the following item has been marked as exempt, it is for the meeting to decide whether or not to consider it 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.

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 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 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.”

15. **Q1 Treasury Management Report - Exempt Appendix** (Pages 63 - 64)

Councillors are requested to collect any post from their pigeon hole in the Members Room at the end of the meeting.

Information about this Meeting

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk or 01295 221554 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 the 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

When the continuous alarm sounds you must evacuate the building by the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the car park as directed by Democratic Services staff and await further instructions.

Access to Meetings

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named below, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Mobile Phones

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

Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact Sharon Hickson, Democratic and Elections
sharon.hickson@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk, 01295 221554

Sue Smith
Chief Executive

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