



Committee: Accounts, Audit and Risk Committee

Date: Wednesday 29 July 2020

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Virtual meeting

Membership

**Councillor Mike Kerford-
Byrnes (Chairman)**

Councillor Hannah Banfield
Councillor Conrad Copeland
Councillor Tom Wallis

Councillor Hugo Brown (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Nathan Bignell
Councillor Nicholas Mawer
Councillor Sean Woodcock

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. Minutes (Pages 7 - 10)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 22 January 2020.

5. Chairman's Announcements

To receive communications from the Chairman.

6. Urgent Business

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

7. Monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report - Quarter 4 / March 2020 (Pages 11 - 36)

Report of Assistant Director of Finance and Head of Insight and Corporate Programmes

Purpose of report

This report summarises the Council's Performance, Risk and Finance monitoring position as at the end of each month.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the monthly Performance, Risk and Finance Monitoring Report.

8. Internal Audit Annual Report and Opinion 2019/20 (Pages 37 - 50)

Report of the Director of Finance

Purpose of report

To receive the Internal Audit Annual Report, which provides the Head of Internal Audit's opinion and also summarises the activities of Internal Audit for the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended to:

- 1.1 note and receive the Head of Internal Audit's Annual Report and opinion.

9. Internal Audit Strategy and Plan 2020/21 (Pages 51 - 68)

Report of the Director of Finance

Purpose of report

The report presents the Internal Audit Strategy and Plan for 2020/21.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended to:

- 1.1 note and comment on the Internal Audit Strategy and Plan for 2020/21.

10. Internal Audit Charter 2020/21 (Pages 69 - 86)

Report of the Director of Finance

Purpose of report

This report presents the Internal Audit Charter and Internal Audit Quality Assurance Programme for 2020/21.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended to:

- 1.1 Approve the Internal Audit Charter.
- 1.2 Note the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme.

11. Counter Fraud Progress Update (Pages 87 - 136)

Report of the Director of Finance

Purpose of report

This report provides an update of the activity being undertaken to prevent and counter fraud across the Council's services, along with seeking approval of three related and updated policy statements.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended to:

- 1.1 Review and note the current progress of the work of the Corporate Fraud team
- 1.2 Consider future work plans and arrangements during 2020/21 and beyond
- 1.3 Approve the updated Whistle Blowing Policy, Money Laundering Policy and Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy.

12. Accounts and External Audit Update including Audit Fees 2019/20 (Verbal Update)

Verbal update by Director of Finance and Ernst & Young, External Audit.

13. 2019/20 Treasury Management Annual Report (Pages 137 - 148)

Report of the Director of Finance

Purpose of report

This report presents information on treasury management performance and compliance with treasury management policy during 2019/20 as required by the Treasury Management Code of Practice.

Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the contents of this report in line with the Treasury Management Strategy.

14. Work Programme (Pages 149 - 150)

To consider and review the Work Programme.

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.

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
democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk, 01295 221554

Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive

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