

Minutes

Audit and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday, 24th January, 2023

Attendance

Cllr Heard (Chair)	Cllr Haigh
Cllr Hirst (Vice-Chair)	Cllr Sankey
Cllr Barrett	Cllr Slade
Cllr Bridge	Cllr Wagland
Cllr Mrs Fulcher	

Apologies

Substitute Present

Also Present

Cllr Hossack

Officers Present

Emily Yule	- Strategic Director
Steve Summers	- Strategic Director
Andrew Hunkin	- Interim Director - People & Governance
Tim Willis	- Interim Director - Resources
Claire Mayhew	- Corporate Manager (Democratic Services) and Deputy Monitoring Officer
Zoe Borman	- Governance and Member Support Officer

LIVE BROADCAST

[Live broadcast to start at 7pm and available for repeat viewing.](#)

322. Apologies for Absence

No apologies had been received.

323. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 15th November 2022 were agreed as a true record.

Members were updated regarding the closure of the 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 Statement of Accounts. Members had received notification that the 2020/2021 Statement of Accounts had been completed under delegated authority of the Section 151 Officer in December 2022.

Regarding 2021/22 Statements, the Council envisage a start date for July 2023.

324. Internal Audit Progress Report

This report was intended to inform the Audit and Scrutiny Committee of progress made against the 2022/23 internal audit plan.

The following report had been finalised since the last Committee:

- Democratic Services audit (Moderate/Moderate).

Ms Combrinck was present at the meeting and summarised the report.

Members raised concerns regarding the S106 Internal Audit report and recommendations and requested a schedule of S106 monies. Officers advised that there was monitoring processes in place which identified where the S106 monies are to be allocated from approved planning applications and assured Members that funds that had been identified by the Internal Audit report due to be spent before March 2023 had been allocated. The Chair agreed that an S106 update report would be provided to the next A&S Committee meeting on the 7th March 2023.

Following a full discussion, Members noted the report.

325. PI and Formal Complaints Working Group

This report submitted the report and recommendations of the Formal Complaints and Performance Indicators Working Group for consideration by the Audit & Scrutiny Committee.

Concerns were raised regarding the fall in recycling figures. Officers explained this could be due to the fact that following the pandemic and the return to work of residents, less recycling was being processed from homes.

It would take at least 6 months to review the trend going forward and obtain accurate recycling figures. However, the Council would be monitoring this.

Following discussion Cllr Heard **MOVED** and Cllr Hirst **SECONDED** the recommendations in the report.

A vote was taken by a show of hands and it was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** that Members:

Note the Formal Complaints and Performance Indicators Working Group report, as attached at Appendix A, and agree the recommendations contained within it.

Reasons for Recommendation

To ensure the Council provides quality customer services.

326. Scrutiny Work Programme

The Constitution requires that the Audit & Scrutiny Committee agrees its Scrutiny work programme at each meeting of the Committee. This report provided an update of the current scrutiny work programme as set out in Appendix A.

Mr Summers advised that there were two items within the Work Programme which were due to be reported to March committee. These were Council Motions and Member Representation on Outside Organisations.

Cllr Heard **MOVED** and Cllr Hirst **SECONDED** the recommendations in the report. A vote was taken by a show of hands and it was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**:

That the Committee considers and agrees the 2022/23 Scrutiny work programme as set out in Appendix A with any additions agreed by the committee at the meeting.

Reasons for Recommendation

The Constitution requires that the Audit & Scrutiny Committee agrees its Scrutiny work programme at each meeting of the Committee.

327. Urgent Business

There were no urgent items.

The meeting concluded at 19.35.