

Minutes of the Audit and Accounts Committee held at the Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford on Tuesday 21 March 2023

Chairman - Councillor A M Loughran

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

M G Dodson P W Jones I D Fordham A Nixon

R A James

Also present:-

Councillor R M Smith - Resources Portfolio C V Trowbridge - Leisure Portfolio

Officers in attendance:-

Mr C Forrester - Deputy Chief Executive (Resources)
Mr S Baddeley - Chief Internal Auditor and Risk Manager

Mr J Dean - Democratic Services Officer

AAC18 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2023, as previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record.

AAC19 Internal Audit Progress Report - February 2023

Considered the report of the Chief Internal Auditor and Risk Manager presenting to the Committee progress of the work of Internal Audit up until 28 February 2023.

Mr Baddeley referred Members to the associated appendix 2 to the report before responding to questions concerning:-

- S106 Monitoring and Delivery
- IT Health Check/IT Assurance Vulnerability Scanning/Cyber Security arrangements

Continuing, Members were provided with an explanation of the process for ensuring associated recommendations were followed up and implemented by Service Managers/Heads of Service.

Members then voted on the recommendation as set out, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance to the powers delegated to the Committee the progress report be noted.

AAC20 Internal Audit Plan 2023-24

Considered the report of the Chief Internal Auditor and Risk Manager presenting the Internal Audit Plan for 2023-24.

During consideration of the report Members attention was drawn to:

- Available Audit Resources for 2023/24 (as set out in appendix 1);
- The detailed Internal Audit Plan for 2023-24 (as set out in appendix 2);

Mr Baddeley provided detail regarding work carried out for Cannock Chase District Councils leisure contractor and the associated fee received by the Council. The ability to amend the Plan as required was also confirmed.

The Deputy Chief Executive (Resources) responded to a query regarding the attendance of the Council's external auditors, Grant Thornton, at meetings of the Committee.

Members then voted on the recommendation as set out, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance to the powers delegated to the Committee the the Internal Audit Plan for 2023-24be approved (it be noted that this included a small amount of work undertaken on behalf of Cannock Chase DC's Leisure provider which would bring in income which would be shared across both Councils).

At the conclusion of the meeting Councillor A M Loughran thanked Members and Officers for their support during the municipal year, and wished Councillor R M Smith a long and happy retirement following his decision not to stand in the forthcoming local elections.

CHAIR