

Chairman - Councillor M G Dodson

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

Councillors:

A D Hobbs

D P Rouxel

R A James

Also present:- Councillors K M Aspin, R P Cooke and L Nixon

Officers in attendance:-

T Clegg - Chief Executive

C Forrester - Deputy Chief Executive (Resources)

J Aupers - Head of Transformation and Assurance

S Baddeley - Chief Internal Auditor and Risk Manager

J Dean - Democratic Services Officer

AAC7 Minutes

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

AAC8 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P A Leason and A M Loughran (substituted by Councillor A D Hobbs).

AAC9 Value for Money Extension Letter

Considered the correspondence of Grant Thornton detailing the above.

The Deputy Chief Executive (Resources) detailed the salient points for Members to note.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the correspondence of Grant Thornton be noted.

AAC10 Annual Treasury Management Report 2022-23

Considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Resources) updating Members on the treasury management activity and performance during the 2022/23 financial year.

During consideration of the report Members attention was drawn to:-

- Treasury position as at 31 March 2023
- Borrowing strategy and control of interest rate risk
- PWLB interest rates 2022/23
- Investments held by the Council

Members then voted on the recommendations as set out, which were declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee:

- (a) the annual treasury management report for 2022/23 be noted;
- (b) the actual 2022/23 prudential and treasury indicators as set out in the appendix to the report be approved.

AAC11 Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2023/24

Considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Resources) updating Members on the treasury management activity and performance during the first half of the 2023/24 financial year and providing an economic update and background to the latest economic forecasts of interest rates.

Continuing, the Deputy Chief Executive (Resources) reiterated the Council's lack of borrowing requirement and noted that the content of the report confirmed the Council's financial stability.

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

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the report, treasury activity and the Prudential Indicators for 2023/24 be noted.

AAC12 Strategic Risk Register

Considered the report of the Head of Transformation and Assurance setting out details of the Council's Strategic Risk Register as at 30 September 2023. A typographical error in paragraph 1.1 of the report was noted (1 April 2023 should read *30 September 2023*).

The Head of Transformation and Assurance highlighted paragraphs 3.1 and 5.7 of the report, and the associated appendices.

The Chief Executive detailed a forthcoming meeting with representatives of High-Speed Rail 2 to discuss any potential impact on the Borough arising from the cancellation of the northern leg of the project.

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

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the draft Strategic Risk Register and progress made in the identification and management of the strategic risks be noted.

AAC13 Internal Audit Update - October 2023

Considered the report of the Chief Internal Auditor and Risk Manager presenting for information progress of work of Internal Audit up to 31 October 2023.

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

- Landscape/Leisure Projects (partial assurance)
- Land charges transfer to Land Registry project (partial assurance)
- Building control (only 1 action outstanding)
- Change to control (IT Audit) (x3 recommendations in progress, to be reported to a forthcoming meeting of Leadership Team)
- IT strategy resources and operational plans (1 recommendation outstanding)

Continuing, Members were informed that the target for completion of the plan as set out was 90%, and that said plan was under review due to a Member of staff leaving the section. An update report would be submitted to the February 2024 meeting of the Committee for consideration by Members.

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

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

AAC14 Annual RIPA Review

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Governance providing details of the use of powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) by the Council.

The Head of Transformation and Assurance reported that said powers had not been used by the Council since 2015.

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

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

CHAIR