

Minutes of the Audit and Accounts Committee held at the Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford on Wednesday 30 March 2022

Chairman - Councillor A M Loughran

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

Councillors:

M G Dodson B McKeown R A James J A Nixon

P W Jones

Cabinet Member - Councillor R M Smith - Deputy Leader and Resources Portfolio

Officers in attendance:-

Head of Governance

Chief Internal Auditor and Risk Manager

Mrs J Aupers -Mr S Baddeley -Mr J Dean -**Democratic Services Officer**

AAC21 **Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2022, as previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record.

AAC22 **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor I D Fordham (substitute Councillor B McKeown).

AAC23 Internal Audit Progress Report – January 2022

Considered the report of the Chief Internal Auditor and Risk Manager presenting to the committee for information a progress report on the work of Internal Audit up to 31 January 2022.

Arising from consideration of the report specific reference was made to:-

- Progress of planned work completed date
- Covid-19 business grants
- S106 monitoring and delivery
- Economic Development projects
- Tree management works

Officers responded accordingly to the queries raised by Members and the Chief Internal Audit and Risk Manager undertook to provide a written response relating to a question concerning fraud work carried out in respect of the awarding of Covid-19 business support grants.

Members subsequently voted on the associated recommendation, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee the Progress Report be noted.

AAC24 Internal Audit Plan for 2022-23

Considered the report of the Chief Internal Auditor and Risk Manager presenting the Internal Audit Plan for 2022-23.

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

- Allocation of resources to audit plan requirements
- Annual audit plan areas of focus
- High priority service areas

Mr Baddeley provided detail regarding vacancies within the Internal Audit Section, and updated Members on the status of the Level 4 apprentice within the Team.

On conclusion of the debate Members voted on the recommendation as set out, which was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee the Internal Audit Plan for 2022-23 be approved.

CHAIR