



AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MEETING : Monday, 14th November 2022

PRESENT : Cllrs. Wilson (Chair), Gravells MBE (Vice-Chair), Brooker, Bowkett, Patel and Pullen

Others in Attendance

Head of Audit, Risk and Assurance
Financial Services Manager
Democratic and Electoral Services Team Leader

APOLOGIES : Cllrs. Durdey and Melvin

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

28. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2022 were approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

29. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were no public questions.

30. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)

There were no petitions nor deputations.

31. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER

The Head of Audit, Risk and Assurance informed Members that the advert for appointing an Independent Member had been live for one month. An individual had

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been identified for the role but had accepted another position. Recruitment, therefore, was ongoing.

RESOLVED that:- The Audit and Governance Committee **NOTE** the update.

32. INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY 2022/23 - PROGRESS REPORT

In respect to the National Fraud Initiative, it had been asked if the new round of uploading data started in October, where it had been answered that this was being followed up as the external auditor was still focused on the outcome of the infrastructure consultation.

When asked to provide update of progress of Internal Audit Activity 2022/23, the Head of ARA stated there was progress particularly with a piece of work focused on recycling, yet the completion of the report had been affected by the cyber incident.

Councillor Pullen had asked for an update on the carbon neutral plan, and was advised that the Climate Change Officer was completing work on that specific issue, and they were still waiting for the Climate Change Action Plan.

Details of the recycling action were outlined:

It had been explained that they were working on sweeping all the roads. When asked to offer more details about roads sweeping and what should be recycled, the Waste, Recycling and Streetscene Manager confirmed that sand, metal pieces and plastic bottles were then sent to Javelin Park, where up to 200 tonnes per month would be recycled.

Being asked how recycling rates were recorded, it had been stated that Javelin Park sent a monthly report to Gloucestershire County Council, while the recycling rates would be recorded by subtracting garden waste, food waste and dry waste from total waste and each item calculated as percentage.

In respect to the Statement of Accounts 2021/22, the finance team provided verbal statement that they were still awaiting infrastructure reports from the auditor.

RESOLVED that:- The Audit and Governance Committee

- i. Accept the progress against the Internal Audit Plan 2022/23; and
- ii. Accept the assurance opinions provided in relation to the effectiveness of the Council's control environment (comprising risk management, control and governance arrangements).

33. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that:

The press and public be excluded from the meeting during the following item of business on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public

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are present during consideration of this item there will be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended. Agenda Item No. 9 Description of Exempt Information: Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

34. IT SYSTEMS UPDATE

RESOLVED that:- The Audit and Governance Committee **NOTE** the update as per the exempt minutes.

35. AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED that:- The Work Programme be noted.

36. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16th January 2023 at 6.30 pm.

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours

Time of conclusion: 7.10 pm hours

Chair