

# MINUTES OF AUDIT AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

30 MARCH 2023

## PRESENT:

Mr P Dudfield (Chairman), Mr J Eves (Vice Chairman), Councillors Mistry, Roodhouse and Willis

## 51. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

## 52. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence from the meeting was received from Councillor Mrs Roberts.

## 53. TREASURY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES UPDATE 2023/24

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance (Part 1 – Agenda Item 4) concerning an update on the council's Treasury Management Practices.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the updated Treasury Management Practices be endorsed.

## 54. 2022/23 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS UPDATE

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance (Part 1 – Agenda Item 5) concerning an update on preparations for the 2022/23 Financial Statements.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the update be noted.

## 55. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS UPDATE

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance (Part 1 – Agenda Item 6) concerning the progress toward delivery of the annual internal audit plan, the proposed in year amendments to the plan and a service performance update.

**RESOLVED THAT** –

- 1) the internal audit progress update be noted; and
- 2) amendments to the internal audit plan be approved.

**56. INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2023/24**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance (Part 1 – Agenda Item 7) concerning the 2023/24 internal audit plan.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the internal audit plan for 2023/24 be approved.

**57. MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC UNDER SECTION 100(A)(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**RESOLVED THAT** – under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of information defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**58. EXEMPTION TO CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS – SELICK PARTNERSHIP LIMITED**

The Committee considered the private report of the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance (Part 2 – Agenda Item 1) concerning an exemption to Contract Standing Orders with regard to the provision of maternity leave cover for the Legal and Governance Manager.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the exemption to Contracts Standing Orders decision made by the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Executive on 28 February 2023 be noted.

**59. WHISTLEBLOWING COMPLAINTS AND RESPONSE**

The Committee considered the private report of the Chief Officer for Finance and Performance (Part 2 – Agenda Item 2) concerning results of recent internal audit work completed following recent whistleblowing complaints received.

**RESOLVED THAT** – the report be noted.

**60. WHISTLEBLOWING INCIDENTS – STANDING ITEM – TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES**

The Corporate Assurance Manager and Transformation Lead provided a verbal update on a case reported at previous meetings and stated that the matter was resolved.

**RESOLVED THAT** –

- 1) the verbal update be noted; and
- 2) an investigation report be presented at the next meeting of Committee.

**61. FRAUD AND CORRUPTION ISSUES – STANDING ITEM – TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES**

The Corporate Assurance Manager and Transformation Lead provided a verbal update on a case reported at previous meetings and stated that the matter remained ongoing.

**RESOLVED THAT –**

- 1) the verbal update be noted; and
- 2) the Committee be provided with an update at the next meeting.

**CHAIRMAN**