

Audit and Standards Committee

Date and Time - **Monday 20 March 2023 – 6:30pm**

Venue - **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bexhill-on-Sea**

Councillors appointed to the Committee:

B.J. Drayson (Chair), R.B. Thomas (Vice-Chair), J. Barnes, Mrs M.L. Barnes, P.C. Courtel, K.M. Harmer (ex-officio), Mrs E.M. Kirby-Green, L.M. Langlands and C.A. Madeley.

Audit Independent Person: Mr Patrick Farmer

AGENDA

1. MINUTES

To authorise the Chair to sign the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee held on 5 December 2022 as a correct record of the proceedings.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

To consider such other items as the Chair decides are urgent and due notice of which has been given to the Head of Paid Service by 12 Noon on the day of the meeting.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

To receive any disclosure by Members of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the personal interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. Members are reminded of the need to repeat their declaration immediately prior to the commencement of the item in question.

PART A - STANDARDS REPORTS

5. PROPOSED CODE OF CONDUCT (Pages 5 - 20)

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For all enquiries please contact

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PART B - AUDIT REPORTS

6. **REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS, GRANT THORNTON - AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT 2021/22** (Pages 21 - 58)
7. **REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS, GRANT THORNTON - ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT 2021/22** (Pages 59 - 98)
8. **REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS, GRANT THORNTON - AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT AND SECTOR UPDATE** (Pages 99 - 114)
9. **AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION - DELEGATIONS TO OFFICERS** (Pages 115 - 116)
10. **HOMES ENGLAND 2022/23 COMPLIANCE AUDIT PROGRAMME** (Pages 117 - 122)
11. **INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2022** (Pages 123 - 138)
12. **REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT 2022/23** (Pages 139 - 146)
13. **INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2023/24** (Pages 147 - 160)
14. **RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE** (Pages 161 - 164)
15. **PROPERTY INVESTMENT STRATEGY UPDATE** (Pages 165 - 174)
16. **PROCUREMENT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME AUDITS UPDATE AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSES - VERBAL UPDATE**
17. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT UPDATE** (Pages 175 - 182)
18. **WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 183 - 184)
19. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (EXEMPT INFORMATION)**

The following item includes material which is exempt from publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and it is recommended that the press and public be excluded. The relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A indicating the nature of the exempt information is stated after each item and is reproduced in full at the end of the agenda. In all the circumstances of each case, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.
20. **PROPERTY INVESTMENT STRATEGY UPDATE** (Pages 185 - 186)

Confidential Appendix 4 to Agenda Item 15 (Paragraph 3)

Malcolm Johnston
Chief Executive

Agenda Despatch Date: 10 March 2023

Extract from Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

Invitees in respect of Standards Related Reports only:

Independent Persons: Mr Robert Brown and Mrs Rose Durban.

Parish/Town Councillor Representative(s): Councillors Mrs W.M. Miers and K. Robertson