

AB

DECISIONS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH 21 NOVEMBER 2016

4. Dispensations

ACTION AGREED

The Committee:

The Audit Committee granted a general dispensation for a four year period ending in November 2020 to all Members who may have a disclosable pecuniary interest in any business of the authority where that business relates to the functions of the authority in respect of:

1. Housing, where you are a tenant of your authority provided that those functions do not relate particularly to your tenancy or lease;
2. School meals or school transport and travelling expenses, where you are a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or are a parent governor of a school, unless it relates particularly to the school which the child attends;
3. Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, where you are in receipt of, or are entitled to the receipt of, such pay;
4. An allowance, payment or indemnity given to Members;
5. Any ceremonial honour given to Members; and
6. Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

RECOMMENDATION

To explore whether an amendment could be made to the dispensations granted in relation to the allowances, payment or indemnity given to Members, to allow members in receipt of basic allowance only to vote at Council and for the Director of Governance to provide a report to the next meeting of Audit Committee to outline whether the amendment would be lawful and whether the Committee should consider it.

5. Appointing Person Arrangements For The Appointment Of The External Auditor

ACTION AGREED

The Committee recommended that Council approve:

1. The adoption of Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) as the appointing person for the Council, subject to receiving a satisfactory invitation to opt into the PSAA's appointing person arrangements; and
2. To delegate acceptance of the invitation to the Corporate Director: Resources, as the Council's Section 151 Officer.

6. INTERNAL AUDIT: HALF YEAR UPDATE 2016 / 2017

The Committee noted the report Internal Audit Update Report to 30 September 2016, in particular:

- (a) Progress made against the plan and overall performance of the section;
- (b) Reports with an opinion of Limited or No Assurance; and
- (c) Initial outcomes of the Internal Audit Customer Survey.

7. Use of Consultants

The Committee: noted the report.

The Committee also requested that the Service Director Financial Services would provide information on hourly rates of particular consultants, which were to be highlighted by Members.

8. Treasury Management

The Committee: Noted the report

INFORMATION AND OTHER ITEMS

9. WORK PROGRAMME

ACTION AGREED

The Committee:

Noted and approved the 2016/2017 Work Programme.

The Committee also agreed that the Service Director Financial Services would circulate the Annual Audit letter to Members prior to the agenda publication for the Audit Committee meeting scheduled for 13 February 2016.