



DECISIONS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

HELD VIA ZOOM, PETERBOROUGH 13 JULY 2020

1. DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2019/20

The Audit Committee considered and **RESOLVED** (unanimously) to note the Draft Statement of Accounts 2019/2020 prior to the Chief Finance Officer's certification by the 30 September 2020.

2. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2019/20

The Audit Committee considered the report on the Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020 and **RESOLVED** (unanimously) to:

1. Note the arrangements for compiling, reporting on and signing the Annual Governance Statement.
2. Review and comment on the Annual Governance Statement including any areas which should be amended; and
3. Subject to changes identified above, agree and approve the statement for signature by the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council for inclusion in the statement of accounts.

3. COUNTER FRAUD POLICIES

The Audit Committee considered the report on Counter Fraud Policies and **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to note the content of the report.

4. ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT OPINION 2019/2020

The Audit Committee considered the Annual Internal Audit Opinion 2019/2020 and **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to endorse the attached Chief Internal Auditor's annual report for the year ended 31 March 2020.

5. INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2020/21

The Audit Committee considered the Internal Audit Plan 2020/2021 and **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to have:

1. Considered and agreed to the Internal Audit Charter for 2020/2021 (Appendix A);
2. Considered and agreed to the Internal Audit Code of Ethics 2020/2021 (Appendix B); and
3. Considered and approved the Internal Audit Strategy and Plans for 2020/2021 (Appendix C, D).

6. REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee considered the report on the Review of the Effectiveness of the Audit Committee and **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to have:

1. Considered the draft response to the CIPFA Toolkit checklist for Audit Committees, which records that the Committee meets all the good practice statements;
2. Considered the draft responses to the CIPFA Knowledge and Skills Framework for local authority audit committees; and
3. Agreed any actions which the Committee considers appropriate to amend or enhance the Committee's arrangements in light of the completed Knowledge and Skills Framework assessment and the CIPFA Audit Committee Toolkit checklist.

7. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT FINAL OUTTURN 2019/20

The Audit Committee considered the report on the Budget Monitoring Report Outturn 2019/2020 and **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to have:

1. Noted the final outturn position for 2019/20 (subject to finalisation of the statutory Statement of Accounts) of a £0.096m underspend on the Council's revenue budget;
2. Noted the reserves position outlined in section 6 and Appendix B, which includes a contribution to the capacity building reserve of £0.096m, as a result of underspend in the revenue outturn report details contained in Appendix A;
3. Noted the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Council's financial position, as outlined within section 5 and Appendix E;
4. Noted the outturn spending of £64.3m in the Council's capital programme in 2019/20 outlined in section 7;
5. Noted the performance against the prudential indicators outlined in Appendix C;
6. Noted the performance on the payment of creditors, collection performance for debtors, local taxation and benefit overpayments outlined in Appendix D.
7. Approved the amendment to the Treasury Management Strategy to reflect the Business Improvement District loan outlined in section 7.

8. RISK REGISTER

The Audit Committee considered the report on the Risk Register and **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to note the report.

9. FINANCIAL CONTROLS

The Audit Committee considered and **RESOLVED** (unanimous) to note the progress that has been made towards implementing the Financial Improvement Programme (FIP) recommendations made by Grant Thornton following their review of financial controls and procedures during 2019.

10. WORK PROGRAMME

The Audit Committee considered and **RESOLVED** (Unanimously) to note the report.