

Audit and Governance Committee Decision Summary

Meeting: 5th March 2021

Agenda/Minutes: [Audit and Governance Committee – 5 March 2021](#)

Chair: John Pye (Chair and Independent Person)

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting

| Item | Topic | Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i> |
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| 1 | Apologies and Declarations of Interests | No apologies received. There were no declarations of interest. |
| 2 | Chair's Announcements | The Committee noted announcements made by the Chair. |
| 3 | Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Action Notes | The Minutes were approved as a correct record and the actions from the previous meeting noted. |
| 4 | Assurance Framework | <p>The Committee received the Assurance Framework report which asked members to approve and recommend the revised draft of the Assurance Framework to the Combined Authority Board, and to delegate to the Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer (in consultation with the Chair of Audit and Governance, the making of any minor amendments following any further comments received from MHCLG</p> <p>The Committee RESOLVED:</p> <p>i) to approve and recommend the revised draft of the Assurance Framework to the Combined Authority</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) request that the concerns of the committee were noted around the Business Board adherence to the Nolan Principles as outlined within the document with reference to holding their meetings in private unless determined by the Chair and would recommend that the word 'not' be removed at point 4.1.7 to change the statement to read: 4.1.7: All other meetings of the Business Board shall be open to the public unless determined otherwise by the Chair. iii) that a proposal outlining how the Combined Authority would address the oversight arrangements for Trading Companies going forward and demonstrate how these would be effective; drawing on real examples from Nottingham and Croydon Councils would be brought to the next meeting. iv) to request that how internal controls around trading companies would operate should be included within the Annual Governance Statement. |
| 5 | Revision to Constitution – Housing Committee | <p>The Committee received the report which requested that the Audit and Governance Committee as the custodians of the Combined Authority Constitution consider and comment on a recommendation from the Housing and Communities Committee.</p> <p>The Committee RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) That all amendments to the constitution should be received and reviewed when the committee reviewed the constitution which would be done in July. ii) That the committee would feedback that it felt that the Culture and Tourism portfolio would be better placed within the Combined Authority |

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| | | Board or an alternative executive committee rather than the Business Board. |
| 6 | Capital Investment Strategy | <p>The Committee received the report which asked them to review the proposed Capital Strategy for 2021/22</p> <p>The Committee noted Capital Strategy for 2021/22.</p> |
| 7 | External Audit – Outline Audit Plan | <p>The Committee received the report which provided the Committee with EY's outline audit plan for the 2020/21 financial statements.</p> <p>The Committee noted the report.</p> |
| 8 | Information Governance Update | <p>The Committee received the report which advised the Audit and Governance Committee of the Information Governance report including findings and recommendations for implementation.</p> <p>The Committee RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) to note the findings and recommendations of the report on Information Governance, which will be implemented at the Combined Authority. ii) to agree 6 monthly reporting into the Committee on information governance matters |
| 9 | Standing Enquiries | <p>The Committee received the report which set out the proposal for how the Committee should consider updates on whistleblowing, fraud and complaints.</p> <p>The Committee RESOLVED:</p> |

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| | | i) to note the report ii) that a report be brought on a six-monthly basis which would provide an update on whistleblowing, fraud, and complaints. |
| 10 | Work Programme for the Audit & Governance Committee | The work programme was received and noted. |
| 11 | Date of next meeting | Tuesday 6 th April 2021 from 10.00 a.m. via the Zoom platform. |