

Audit and Governance Committee

Agenda

Date: Thursday, 25th June, 2015
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a total period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the Committee on any matter relevant to the work of the body in question.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given.

It is not required to give notice of the intention to make use of public speaking provision, however, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours notice is encouraged.

For requests for further information

Contact: Cherry Foreman

Tel: 01270 686463

E-Mail: cherry.foreman@cheshireeast.gov.uk with any apologies

4. **Minutes of Previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2015.

5. **Introduction to the Work of the Committee** (Pages 7 - 12)

For Members' information the Committee's terms of reference, and those of its sub-committees, as set out in the Constitution, are attached.

6. **External Audit Update Report** (Pages 13 - 30)

To consider an update report from Grant Thornton for the year ending March 2015.

7. **Internal Audit Annual Report 2014/15** (Pages 31 - 54)

To receive the opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's control environment for 2014/15.

8. **Draft Annual Governance Statement 2014/15** (Pages 55 - 86)

To consider the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2014/15 prior to the final version being considered at the meeting in September.

9. **Pre Audit Statement of Accounts 2014/15**

To consider the pre-audit statement of accounts for 2014/15. (Report to follow.)

10. **Whistleblowing Arrangements** (Pages 87 - 90)

To consider a update on the effectiveness of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy and a breakdown of the number of reports received in 2014/15.

11. **Code of Corporate Governance Review and Update** (Pages 91 - 118)

To review and comment on an update to the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. **Ombudsman Complaints**

To receive a presentation on the process for the review of draft Ombudsman reports prior to publication, to include the findings of the recent investigation into brown wheelie bins.

13. **Work Plan** (Pages 119 - 130)

To consider the future programme of meetings and agenda items for 2015/16 to ensure the comprehensive coverage of the Committee's responsibilities.