

Audit and Governance Committee Agenda

Date: Thursday 5th December 2019
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.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision making meetings are audio recorded and the recordings are uploaded to the Council's website.

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 paragraph 2.32 of the Committee Procedural Rules and Appendix 7 to the Rules 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 or person presiding 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 are not required to give notice to use this facility. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours' notice is encouraged.

OFFICIAL

For requests for further information

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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.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 5 - 10)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2019 as a correct record.

5. **External Audit Report 2019/20** (Pages 11 - 34)

To receive the Audit Strategy for the year ending 31 March 2020.

6. **Certification of Claims and Returns 2018/19** (Pages 35 - 38)

To receive a summary of the key findings that have been identified during the External Auditors certification process for the 2018/19 Housing Benefit Subsidy claim and the Teachers' Pension End of Year Certificate.

7. **Review of Cheshire East Group Accounting Policies** (Pages 39 - 60)

To receive a report which provides an update on the accounting arrangements for the Local Government Pension Scheme in respect of the Council's wholly owned companies, and the full set of accounting policies for the Cheshire East Group for review.

8. **Draft Treasury Management Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2020/21** (Pages 61 - 84)

To receive an update on the contents of the Council's draft Treasury Management Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement.

9. **Member Code of Conduct: Standards Report** (Pages 85 - 88)

To receive a report on the number and status of Member Code of Conduct complaints received in relation to Cheshire East Councillors and our Town and Parish Councillors.

10. **Maladministration Decision Notices from Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman – July – August 2019** (Pages 89 - 94)

To consider and note a report on the Decision Notices issued by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman when their investigations have found maladministration causing injustice to complainants.

11. **Inspection by the Investigatory Powers Commissioners' Office** (Pages 95 - 108)

To receive a summary of the findings, recommendations and action plan from the remote desktop inspection by the Investigatory Powers Commissioners' Office.

12. **Risk Management Update** (Pages 109 - 124)
- To receive an update on Corporate Risk Management arrangements and activity in the year to date.
13. **Internal Audit Interim Update Report April – September 2019** (Pages 125 - 142)
- To receive an update on progress against the Internal Audit Plan 2019/20, revisions to the Plan and a summary of work undertaken to the end of September 2019.
14. **Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 – Progress Update** (Pages 143 - 168)
- To consider an update on the issues reported in the 2018/19 Annual Governance Statement and the process for the production of the 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement.
15. **Committee Work Plan** (Pages 169 - 182)
- To consider the Work Plan for 2019/20, to ensure comprehensive coverage of the Committee’s responsibilities.
16. **Contract Procedure Rules Non-Adherences** (Pages 183 - 188)
- To receive an update on the quantity and reasons for non-adherences approved between the period 1 September and 31 October 2019.
17. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**
- The reports relating to the remaining items on the agenda have been withheld from public circulation and deposit pursuant to Section 100(B)(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the matters may be determined with the press and public excluded.
- The Committee may decide that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

PART 2 - MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

18. **Contract Procedure Rules Non-Adherences**
- To note the approved WARNs issued between 1 September and 31 October 2019.

Membership: Councillors R Bailey (Vice-Chairman), D Edwardes, B Evans, R Fletcher (Chairman), A Gregory, S Handley, S Hogben, M Houston, A Kolker and M Sewart
Independent Co-opted Member: Mr P Gardener