

Audit and Governance Committee Agenda

Date: Thursday 25th November 2021
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PLEASE NOTE – This meeting is open to the public and anyone attending this meeting is required to wear a face covering upon entering and leaving the venue and only be removed when seated.

The importance of undertaking a lateral flow test in advance of attending any committee meeting. Lateral Flow Testing: Anyone attending is asked to undertake a lateral flow test on the day of any meeting before embarking upon the journey to the venue. Please note that it can take up to 30 minutes for the true result to show on a lateral flow test. If your test shows a positive result, then you must not attend the meeting, and must follow the advice which can be found here:
https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_information/coronavirus/testing-for-covid-19.aspx

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 top 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.

OFFICIAL

For requests for further information

Contact: Rachel Graves

Tel: 01270 686473

E-Mail: rachel.graves@cheshireeast.gov.uk with any apologies

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

In accordance with the Council's Committee Procedure Rules and Appendix on Public Speaking a total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to put questions to the committee on any matter relating to this agenda. Each member of the public will be allowed up to two minutes each to speak, and the Chair will have discretion to vary this where they consider it appropriate.

Members of the public wishing to speak are required to provide notice of this at least three clear working days' in advance of the meeting and should include the question with that notice.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 5 - 14)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2021.

5. **Annual Audit Letter 2020/21 and Certification Report**

To report on progress against the external audit of the 2020/21 accounts.
Report to follow

6. **Annual Statement of Accounts 2021/22**

To report on progress against the Annual Statement of Accounts 2020/21.
Report to follow

7. **Annual Governance Statement 2020/21**

To report on progress against the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21.
Report to follow.

8. **Audit and Governance Committee Annual Report 2021/22** (Pages 15 - 38)

To consider the Audit and Governance Committee Annual Report 2021/22.

9. **Risk Management Update** (Pages 39 - 48)

To receive an update on the risk management and business continuity activity in the Council.

10. **Internal Audit 2021/22 Plan Progress Update** (Pages 49 - 66)

To consider a progress report on the Internal Audit Plan 2021/22.

11. **Procurement of External Audit Services** (Pages 67 - 72)

To consider the proposals for appointing the Council's external auditors for the five-year period from 2023/24 and make a recommendation to Council.

12. **Committee Work Programme**

To consider the Work Programme and determine any required amendments.
Report to follow.

13. **Contract Procedure Rule Non-Adherences** (Pages 73 - 78)

To consider the report deferred at the meeting of the Committee on 30 September 2021.

14. **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, 2 and 3 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

15. **Contract Procedure Rule Non-Adherences**

To consider the WARNs deferred at the meeting of the Committee on 30 September 2021.

Membership: Councillors R Bailey, C Bulman, B Evans, A Harewood, M Houston, D Marren (Vice-Chair), P Redstone, M Sewart and M Simon (Chair)