

Work Plan 2020/21

			Extract from Committee Terms of Reference	
Agenda Item	Description	No	Detail	
30th July 2020				
1	External Audit 2019/20 Progress and Update Report (Mazars)	To consider an update report from Mazars in delivering their responsibilities as external auditors.	118	To consider the external auditor's annual letter, relevant reports, and the report to those charged with governance
2	Draft Pre-Audit Statement of Accounts 2019/20	This item introduces the 2019/20 pre-audit statement of accounts to the Committee. This starts the public inspection period and provides members with detail on the next steps to complete the approval of the accounts	123	To review and approve the annual statement of accounts. Specifically, to consider whether appropriate accounting policies have been followed and whether there are concerns arising from the financial statements or from the audit that need to be brought to the attention of the Council.
3	Internal Audit Annual Report (20/19/20)	Annual opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's control environment	111	To consider the Head of Internal Audit's annual report: a) The statement of the level of conformance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and Local Government Application Note and the results of the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme that supports the statement – these will indicate the reliability of the conclusions of internal audit. b) The opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the council's framework of governance, risk management and control together with the summary of the work supporting the

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				opinion – these will assist the committee in reviewing the Annual Governance Statement
4	Annual Monitoring Officer Report 2019/20	Annual Report of the Monitoring Officer 2019/20	110	To review the Council's corporate governance arrangements against the good governance framework and consider annual governance reports and assurances.
5	Annual Information Governance Update 2019/20	This report provides an update on the Council's Information Governance arrangements during 2019/20.	93	To review the Council's corporate governance arrangements against the good governance framework and consider annual governance reports and assurances.
6	Draft Annual Governance Statement 2019/20	This report introduces the draft 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement to the Committee for consideration and comment	94	To review and approve the Annual Governance Statement and consider whether it properly reflects the risk environment and supporting assurances, taking into account internal audit's opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the council's framework of governance, risk management and control.
7	Audit and Governance Committee Annual Report 2019/20	Annual Report of the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee for consideration and approval by Committee ahead of presentation to Council.	125	To report to those charged with governance on the committee's findings conclusions and recommendations concerning the adequacy and effectiveness of their governance, risk management and internal control frameworks; financial reporting arrangements, and internal and external audit functions.
			126	To report to full Council on a regular basis on the

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			committee's performance in relation to the terms of reference and the effectiveness of the committee in meeting its purpose.	
		127	To publish an annual report on the work of the committee.	
8	General Dispensations	For the Committee to renew, for a period of four years, a number of general dispensations under the Localism Act 2011, as previously approved by the Committee in September 2016	131	The Committee is responsible for the Council's standards arrangements which seek to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) promote high standards of ethical behaviour by developing, maintaining and monitoring Codes of Conduct for Members of the Council (including co-opted Members and other persons acting in a similar capacity); (b) ensure that Members receive advice and as appropriate on the Members Code of Conduct; and (c) grant dispensations under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 to enable a member or co-opted Member to participate in a meeting of the Authority.
9	Member Dispensations on Community Governance Review	For the Committee to grant a general dispensation allowing Members to take part in and vote on Community Governance Review matters in which they have disclosable pecuniary and prejudicial interests for a 4-year period up to 29 July 2024.	131	The Committee is responsible for the Council's standards arrangements which seek to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) promote high standards of ethical behaviour by developing, maintaining and monitoring Codes of Conduct for Members of the Council (including co-opted Members and other persons acting in a similar capacity);

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			(b) ensure that Members receive advice and as appropriate on the Members Code of Conduct; and (c) grant dispensations under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 to enable a member or co-opted Member to participate in a meeting of the Authority.	
10	Upheld Complaints to the Local Government Ombudsmen (If required)	129	<p>Subject to the requirements set out below, to consider all findings of the Local Government Ombudsman, including reports resulting in a finding of maladministration against the Council, and to make recommendations as to actions that may be necessary in connection with the Ombudsman's findings.</p> <p>(a) There are statutory obligations which will, in some circumstances, require reports to be taken to Cabinet or full Council.</p> <p>(b) The Ombudsman operates protocols in relation to the timing of the publication of findings. The Council would have to give consideration to those protocols when determining how to manage the Audit and Governance Committee's agenda.</p>	
	<p>Members have requested that they receive a report where there is a complaint upheld by the Local Government Ombudsmen.</p> <p>This will need to be a <u>standing agenda item</u>, and will require ongoing co-ordination between the Compliance Manager, Democratic Services, the responsible service and the Chair/Vice Chair to establish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if there have been any upheld complaints to be reported on to the next agenda • the appropriate part of the agenda for the report to be considered • clarity on the purpose of the report, the nature of the assurances to be provided in the report, and that this process doesn't duplicate any existing process or reporting. 			

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11	Covid-19 Impact on Finance	To provide an update on the financial impact of Covid-19 and the Council's response to this..	123	To review and approve the annual statement of accounts. Specifically, to consider whether appropriate accounting policies have been followed and whether there are concerns arising from the financial statements or from the audit that need to be brought to the attention of the Council.
12	Work Plan 2020/21	Forward looking programme of meetings and agenda items for 2020/21 to ensure comprehensive coverage of the Committee's responsibilities.	ALL	ALL
13 & 14	Contract Procedure Rule Non- Adherences (Part 1 and Part 2)	Report to update Committee on the quantity and reasons for Non-Adherences approved since the last Committee.	95	To consider the Council's arrangements to secure value for money and to review and scrutinise assurances and assessments on the effectiveness of these arrangements.

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24th September 2020				
1	External Audit 2019/20 Progress and Update Report (Mazars)	To consider an update report from Mazars in delivering their responsibilities as external auditors.	118	To consider the external auditor's annual letter, relevant reports, and the report to those charged with governance
2	Internal Audit 2020/21 Plan Progress Update	Progress report against the Internal Audit Plan 2019/20.	110	To consider reports from the Head of Internal Audit on internal audit's performance during the year, including the performance of external providers of internal audit services.
3	Annual Risk Management Report 2019/20	Annual report on the effectiveness of risk management arrangements in the Council during 2019/20.	97	To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management in the council.
4	Referrals to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsmen 2019/20.	The report will provide a summary of the key issues from the annual report received by the LGO.	93	To review the Council's corporate governance arrangements against the good governance framework and consider annual governance reports and assurances.
5	Treasury Management Annual Report 2019/20.	This report will update the Committee on Treasury Management activity over the year.	103	To review and monitor the Council's treasury management arrangements in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.
6	Counter Fraud Report	Annual report on counter fraud work in the Council during 2019/20 This report will also set out the review	101	To monitor the counter-fraud strategy, actions and resources.

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	of the Council's Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy against current best practice and identifies any suggestions for improvements to the current arrangements.	128	To approve and monitor Council policies relating to whistleblowing and anti-fraud and corruption.
7	<p>Upheld Complaints to the Local Government Ombudsmen (If required)</p> <p>Members have requested that they receive a report where there is a complaint upheld by the Local Government Ombudsmen.</p> <p>This will need to be a <u>standing agenda item</u>, and will require ongoing co-ordination between the Compliance Manager, Democratic Services, the responsible service and the Chair/Vice Chair to establish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if there have been any upheld complaints to be reported on to the next agenda • the appropriate part of the agenda for the report to be considered • clarity on the purpose of the report, the nature of the assurances to be 	129	<p>Subject to the requirements set out below, to consider all findings of the Local Government Ombudsman, including reports resulting in a finding of maladministration against the Council, and to make recommendations as to actions that may be necessary in connection with the Ombudsman's findings.</p> <p>(a) There are statutory obligations which will, in some circumstances, require reports to be taken to Cabinet or full Council.</p> <p>(b) The Ombudsman operates protocols in relation to the timing of the publication of findings. The Council would have to give consideration to those protocols when determining how to manage the Audit and Governance Committee's agenda.</p>

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		provided in the report, and that this process doesn't duplicate any existing process or reporting.		
8	Work Plan 2020/21	Forward looking programme of meetings and agenda items for 2020/21 to ensure comprehensive coverage of the Committee's responsibilities.	ALL	ALL
9 & 10	Contract Procedure & Rule Non- Adherences (Part 1 and Part 2)	Report to update Committee on the quantity and reasons for Non-Adherences approved since the last Committee.	95	To consider the Council's arrangements to secure value for money and to review and scrutinise assurances and assessments on the effectiveness of these arrangements.

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Agenda Item	Description	No	Detail	
11th November 2020				
1	External Audit Findings and Action Plan (Mazars)	Summary of findings from the 2019/20 audit and key issues identified by External Audit in issuing their opinion on the Council's financial statements and its arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources	118	To consider the External Auditor's annual letter, relevant reports, and the report to those charged with governance.
			120	To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money.
2	Annual Statement of Accounts 2019/20	Approval of the Audited Statement of Accounts for 2019/20	123	To review and approve the annual statement of accounts. Specifically, to consider whether appropriate accounting policies have been followed and whether there are concerns arising from the financial statements or from the audit that need to be brought to the attention of the Council.
3	Annual Governance Statement 2019/20	Approval of the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20	94	To review and approve the Annual Governance Statement and consider whether it properly reflects the risk environment and supporting assurances, taking into account internal audit's opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the council's framework of governance, risk management and control.
4	Draft Treasury Management Strategy and	Update on the contents of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2020/21.	103	To review and monitor the Council's treasury management arrangements in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.

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	Minimum Revenue Provision Statement	The CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice requires all local authorities to make arrangements for the scrutiny of treasury management. This responsibility has been nominated to the Audit & Governance Committee.		
5	Risk Management Update	This report will update the Committee on Risk Management and Business Continuity activity in the Council.	97	To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management in the council.
6	Internal Audit Plan 2020/21: Progress Report	To consider a summary of Internal Audit Work undertaken between September 2020 and December 2020	110	To consider reports from the Head of Internal Audit's performance during the year.
7	Committee Structure and Composition	To review the Committee structure and consideration; including the inclusion of co-opted independent members, as recommended by the LGA Corporate Peer Review.		
8	Upheld Complaints to the Local Government Ombudsmen (If required)	Members have requested that they receive a report where there is a complaint upheld by the Local Government Ombudsmen. This will need to be a <u>standing agenda item</u> , and will require ongoing co-ordination between the Compliance Manager, Democratic Services, the responsible service and the Chair/Vice	129	Subject to the requirements set out below, to consider all findings of the Local Government Ombudsman, including reports resulting in a finding of maladministration against the Council, and to make recommendations as to actions that may be necessary in connection with the Ombudsman's findings. (a) There are statutory obligations which will, in

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		Chair to establish: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if there have been any upheld complaints to be reported on to the next agenda • the appropriate part of the agenda for the report to be considered • clarity on the purpose of the report, the nature of the assurances to be provided in the report, and that this process doesn't duplicate any existing process or reporting. 		some circumstances, require reports to be taken to Cabinet or full Council. (b) The Ombudsman operates protocols in relation to the timing of the publication of findings. The Council would have to give consideration to those protocols when determining how to manage the Audit and Governance Committee's agenda.
9	Work Plan 2020/21	Forward looking programme of meetings and agenda items for 2020/21 to ensure comprehensive coverage of the Committee's responsibilities.	ALL	ALL
10 & 11	Contract Procedure & Rule Non-Adherences (Part 1 and Part 2)	Report to update Committee on the quantity and reasons for Non-Adherences approved since the last Committee.	95	To consider the Council's arrangements to secure value for money and to review and scrutinise assurances and assessments on the effectiveness of these arrangements.

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11th March 2021				
1	Annual Audit Letter 2019/20 (Mazars)	Summary of the External Audit findings from the 2019/20 audit. The letter will also confirm the final audit fee.	118	To consider the External Auditor's annual letter, relevant reports and the report to those charged with governance.
			120	To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money.
2	Certification Report	The report provides a summary of the key findings that have been identified during the External Auditors' certification process for 2019/20 claims and returns.	118	To consider the External Auditor's annual letter, relevant reports and the report to those charged with governance.
3	External Audit Plan 2020/21 (Mazars)	To receive and comment on External Audit's planned work for the audit of financial statements and the value for money conclusion 2020/21.	118	To consider the External Auditor's annual letter, relevant reports, and the report to those charged with governance.
4	Annual Governance Statement - Progress Update	Update on actions to improve governance arrangements and respond to emerging issues identified in the 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement. Proposed process for the production of the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement.	120	To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money.

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5	Members Code of Conduct: Standards Report	To note the numbers and outcomes of complaints made under the Code of Conduct for Members between September 2020 February 2021.	131	To promote high standards of ethical behaviour by developing, maintaining and monitoring Code of Conduct for Members of the Council (including co-opted Members and other persons acting in a similar capacity).
6	Risk Management Update	This report will update the Committee on Risk Management and Business Continuity activity in the Council.	97	To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management in the council.
7	Internal Audit Plan 2020/21: Progress Report	To consider a summary of Internal Audit Work undertaken between September 2020 and December 2020	110	To consider reports from the Head of Internal Audit's performance during the year.
8	Partnerships Governance	To consider assurance in relation to the governance arrangements in place to manage significant partnerships in which the Council participates.	102	To review the governance and assurance arrangements for significant partnerships or collaborations.
9	Upheld Complaints to the Local Government Ombudsmen (If required)	<p>Members have requested that they receive a report where there is a complaint upheld by the Local Government Ombudsmen.</p> <p>This will need to be a <u>standing agenda item</u>, and will require ongoing co-ordination between the Compliance Manager, Democratic Services, the responsible service and the Chair/Vice</p>	129	<p>Subject to the requirements set out below, to consider all findings of the Local Government Ombudsman, including reports resulting in a finding of maladministration against the Council, and to make recommendations as to actions that may be necessary in connection with the Ombudsman's findings.</p> <p>(a) There are statutory obligations which will, in some circumstances, require reports to be taken to Cabinet or full Council.</p> <p>(b) The Ombudsman operates protocols in relation to</p>

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		Chair to establish: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if there have been any upheld complaints to be reported on to the next agenda • the appropriate part of the agenda for the report to be considered • clarity on the purpose of the report, the nature of the assurances to be provided in the report, and that this process doesn't duplicate any existing process or reporting. 		the timing of the publication of findings. The Council would have to give consideration to those protocols when determining how to manage the Audit and Governance Committee's agenda.
10	Work Plan 2020/21 and 2021/22	Forward looking programme of meetings and agenda items to ensure comprehensive coverage of the Committee's responsibilities.	ALL	ALL
11 & 12	Contract Procedure Rule Non-Adherences (Part 1 and Part 2)	Report to update Committee on the quantity and reasons for Non-Adherences approved since the last Committee.	95	To consider the Council's arrangements to secure value for money and to review and scrutinise assurances and assessments on the effectiveness of these arrangements.

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Unscheduled Items			
Review of the Council's Standards Arrangements	Members have requested a review of the Council's Standards arrangements to be undertaken. <i>Scheduling of this report is reliant upon the publication of the model Standards Code and the appointment of a new Monitoring Officer.</i>	131	To promote high standards of ethical behaviour by developing, maintaining and monitoring Code of Conduct for Members of the Council (including co-opted Members and other persons acting in a similar capacity).
Highways; allocation and use of funding	Requested by Members; a report on the allocation and use of Highways funding	96	To consider the Council's framework of assurance and ensure that it adequately addresses the risks and priorities of the council
Update on Internal Audit Report on Land Transactions	Requested by Members	129	To consider summaries of specific internal audit reports as requested.