

Audit and Governance Committee

Agenda

Date: Thursday 9th March 2023
Time: 10.30 am
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 in the 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 paragraphs 2.24 of 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.

For requests for further information

Contact: Jennifer Ashley

Tel: 01270 685705

E-Mail: jennifer.ashley@cheshireeast.gov.uk with any apologies

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 5 - 12)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2022.

5. **Audit and Governance Action Log** (Pages 13 - 16)

To consider the action log.

6. **Public Interest Report** (Pages 17 - 26)

To consider an update on the Public Interest Report and the recommendation to the Audit and Governance Committee, following the meeting of Council on 1 February 2023 which considered the Public Interest Report published by Grant Thornton on 17 January 2023.

7. **External Audit Findings and Action Plan 2021/22** (Pages 27 - 72)

To consider the Audit Completion Report 2021/22.

8. **Annual Governance Statement 2021/22** (Pages 73 - 122)

To receive and agree the proposed final Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 for signature by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive.

9. **Certification of Housing Benefit Subsidy Claim and Teachers Pensions Return 2021/22** (Pages 123 - 126)

To consider the outcome of the External Auditor's certification process for the 2021/22.

10. **Risk Management Update** (Pages 127 - 168)

To consider the update on the Strategic Risk Register for the period ending Quarter 2 22/23, and other risk management activity.

11. **Six Monthly Complaints Report** (Pages 169 - 184)

To consider a summary of the complaints received and considered by the Council during the period 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022.

12. **Inspection by Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office** (Pages 185 - 196)

To consider the outcome of a remote inspection by the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office in relation to the Council's use of its powers under Part II of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

13. **Internal Audit Update Report Q3 2022/23** (Pages 197 - 214)

To receive an update on work undertaken by Internal Audit between October and December 2022.

14. **Internal Audit Plan 2023/24** (Pages 215 - 236)

To receive and approve the Summary Internal Audit Plan for 2023/24.

15. **Update Report - CIPFA Review of Audit and Governance Committee**
(Pages 237 - 246)

To receive an update on the CIPFA review.

16. **Work Programme** (Pages 247 - 250)

To consider the Committee's Work Programme.

17. **Contract Procedure Rules** (Pages 251 - 256)

To consider an update on the number of cases where, and reasons why, procurement activity has required the use of waivers and/or non-adherences (WARNs).

18. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

The report relating to the remaining item on the agenda has 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 Paragraph 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

19. **Contract Procedure Rules** (Pages 257 - 292)

To consider the WARNs.

Membership: Councillors R Bailey, C Bulman, M Goldsmith, A Harewood, M Houston, J Nicholas (Vice Chair), P Redstone, M Sewart, M Simon (Chair) and Mr R Jones.