

AUDIT AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 8 March 2022 (6:15 pm – 7:48 pm)

PRESENT:

Councillor Holes (Chair); Councillors Bourne, Campbell, Grajewski, Irish, Manning, Park and Tennent

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Pragnell

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RESOLVED ITEMS (SUBJECT TO QUESTIONS ONLY)

137. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items of business on the agenda.

138. MINUTES

Councillor Grajewski thanked the Legal Services Manager and Data Protection Officer (Solicitor) for looking into whether Eastleigh Borough Council had reviewed its use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) over the last two years and updating the Committee.

Councillor Grajewski also thanked the Executive Head of Governance and Monitoring Officer for circulating the report on construction cost increases, that was shared with the Strategic Risk Management Group, with members of the Audit and Resources Committee via email.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2022 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

139. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation on this occasion.

140. ACTION LIST

The Committee considered the Action List, which set out the recent decisions and subsequent actions arising from the Committee.

The Acting Chief Internal Auditor confirmed that an external assessment of compliance was due to take place on 14 March and she would update the Committee at the June meeting.

**It was AGREED -**

**That the Action List be noted.**

141. INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER 2022/23

The Acting Chief Internal Auditor introduced the report which provided the Internal Audit Charter for 2022/23.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the Committee approved the report.**

142. INTERNAL AUDIT STRATEGIC PLAN 2022 - 23

The Acting Chief Internal Auditor presented the Strategic Internal Audit Plan 2022/23 to the Committee.

Councillor Campbell requested an update to when project management and climate and environment strategy - mentioned as high risk in the audit universe table on pages 38-41 of the agenda, were last audited.

The Acting Chief Internal Auditor agreed to look into when they were done and let the Committee know.

The Chair requested that in future the table include the dates of when high-risk items mentioned in the table were last audited.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the Internal Audit Plan 2022/23 be approved.**

143. CABINET FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the current Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

Councillor Grajewski requested that items mentioned in the Forward Plan were added three months in advance.

It was explained that items added to the Forward Plan should be done with 28 clear days' notice and that Executive Heads would be reminded of the deadlines.

It was agreed that the Forward Plan would also include which committee the items would go before in the column titled Pre-Decision Scrutiny.

**It was AGREED -**

**That the current Forward Plan be noted.**

144. A&R WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered its current Work Programme.

Councillor Grajewski requested a further update on the Hampshire Community Bank.

The Chief Financial Officer agreed to bring a written report to the June meeting.

Councillor Campbell raised concerns about the Romsey Road and Old Post Office developments and requested that they be reviewed.

The Executive Head of Finance and Housing agreed to pick up the schemes in the next meeting of the Housing Group.

**It was AGREED -**

**That the Work Programme be noted.**

145. UPDATE ON STAFFING MATTERS 2021

The Head of HR introduced the report.

Councillor Campbell requested that any future reports include the total number of staff in each area, so that it is easier to understand the data presented.

Councillor Grajewski queried whether the Council were using all of the apprenticeship levy available, and if not requested information on how much the Council was using.

The Head of HR agreed to find out and circulate the information to members.

The Chair requested that results from the Working from Home survey, which is currently being taken, be circulated to all members and added to the Work Programme.

The Chief Financial Officer informed members that the results from the survey would be included in the Member's Bulletin.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the Committee noted the report.**

146. EXEMPT BUSINESS

**RESOLVED -**

- (1) That, in pursuance of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they are likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act; and**
- (2) That, in pursuance of the public interest test, the public interest in disclosing the information contained in the following item of business was outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption.**

147. HOUSING ACCELERATION FUNDING

**RESOLVED –**

**That the report be noted and comments made forwarded to Cabinet.**