



Committee: AUDIT COMMITTEE
Date: WEDNESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2023
Venue: MORECAMBE TOWN HALL
Time: 6.00 P.M.

A G E N D A

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Minutes**

Minutes of meeting held on 26th July 2023 (previously circulated).

3. **Items of Urgent Business authorised by the Chair** (Pages 4 - 8)

4. **Declarations of Interest**

To receive declarations by Councillors of interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Councillors are reminded that, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting).

Whilst not a legal requirement, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 and in the interests of clarity and transparency, Councillors should declare any disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, at this point in the meeting.

In accordance with Part B Section 2 of the Code Of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare the existence and nature of any other interests as defined in paragraphs 8(1) or 9(2) of the Code of Conduct.

5. **Update of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) Policy** (Pages 9 - 33)

Report of the Information Governance Manager

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

Whilst the following report is public, it contains an exempt appendix. The Committee is recommended to pass the following recommendation in relation to the following item:-
"That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act."

Members are reminded that, whilst the appendix has been marked exempt, it is for the committee itself to decide whether or not to consider it in private or in public. In making the decision, Members should consider the relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, and also whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. In considering their discretion Members should also be mindful of the advice of Council Officers.

7. **Strategic Risk Management** (Pages 34 - 42)

Report of the Chief Executive

8. **Internal Audit Progress Report** (Pages 43 - 65)

Report of the Head of Internal Audit

9. **Review of Internal Audit Effectiveness**

Verbal update by the Head of Internal Audit

10. **Annual Review of Audit Committee Performance**

Verbal update by the Head of Internal Audit

11. **Statement of Accounts Update** (Pages 66 - 72)

Report of the Chief Finance Officer

Published 21 November

12. **AGS Action Plan Monitoring** (Pages 73 - 76)

Report of the Chief Officer Governance and Chief Finance Officer

Published 17 November.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

(i) Membership

Councillors Paul Stubbins (Chair), Colin Hartley (Vice-Chair), Ruth Colbridge, Peter Jackson, Kate Knight, Shelagh McGregor and David Whitaker

(ii) Substitute Membership

Councillors Gerry Blaikie (Substitute), Dave Brookes (Substitute) and Tom Fish (Substitute)

(iii) Queries regarding this Agenda

Please contact Sarah Moorghen, Democratic Support - email smoorghen@lancaster.gov.uk.

(iv) Changes to Membership, substitutions or apologies

Please contact Democratic Support, telephone 582000, or alternatively email democracy@lancaster.gov.uk.

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Published on 14th November 2023.