

South Northamptonshire Council

Audit Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Audit Committee held as a Remote meeting on Tuesday 30 March 2021 at 5.00 pm.

Present Councillor Hywel Davies (Vice-Chairman)
 Councillor Anthony S. Bagot-Webb
 Councillor Sandra Barnes MBE
 Councillor Phil Bignell
 Councillor Chris Lofts

Also Present: Maria Grindley – Ernst & Young LLP, External Audit

Apologies for
Absence: Councillor David Harries BEM

Officers: Martin Henry, Executive Director: Finance (Section 151 Officer)
 Denise Taylor, Temporary Assistant Director Finance &
 Procurement / Deputy S.151 Officer
 Richard Woods, Democratic Services Officer

49 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

50 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11 March 2021 were agreed as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman in due course.

51 Chairman's Announcements

There were no Chairman's announcements.

52 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

53 External Audit Results 2019-20

The Committee considered a report from the Temporary Assistant Director – Finance and Procurement which set out the External Audit Results 2019-20.

The External Auditor explained that, despite delays caused by the Northamptonshire Pensions Fund Audit and Going Concern Consultation, all work on the External Audit opinion, and the value for money conclusion and certificate had now concluded.

Resolved

(1) That the contents of the External Audit Results Report 2019-20 be noted.

54 **Statement of Accounts, Annual Governance Statement 2019-20 and Letter of Representation**

The Temporary Assistant Director – Finance and Procurement submitted a report which requested that Members consider and approve the Statement of Accounts 2019-20 and the Letter of Representation 2019-20.

In introducing the report, the Executive Director – Finance explained that Members of the Audit Committee had received a full briefing on the contents of the Statement of Accounts 2019-20 and Letter of Representation 2019-20. Members asked detailed questions of the documents which were duly answered by Officers.

Members of the Committee expressed their thanks to the External Auditors and Officers who had worked hard to ensure that the Statement of Accounts 2019-20 and Letter of Representation 2019-20 were available and ready for consideration prior to vesting day for the new West Northamptonshire Council.

Resolved

(1) That, having given due consideration, the Statement of Accounts 2019-20 be approved.

(2) That, having given due consideration, the Letter of Representation 2019-20 be approved.

(3) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director – Finance (Section 151 Officer) to make any typographical amendments to the Statement of Accounts 2019-20 and Letter of Representation 2019-20 as deemed necessary.

55 **Review of Committee Work Programme**

The Vice Chairman advised that no further meetings of Audit Committee were scheduled ahead of the transition to West Northamptonshire Council on 1 April 2021, therefore the work of the Committee had drawn to a close.

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The meeting closed at 5.17 pm

Chairman:

Date: