

Audit, Governance and Standards Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee held on Wednesday 18 November 2020 at 6.30 pm at Online/Virtual: Contact virginia.wynn-jones@southwark.gov.uk to attend

PRESENT: Councillor James McAsh (Chair)
Councillor Humaira Ali
Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle MBE
Councillor Tom Flynn
Councillor Andy Simmons
Councillor Michael Situ

OFFICER SUPPORT: Duncan Whitfield, strategic director of finance and governance
Jo Anson, finance
Rob Woollatt, finance
Geraldine Chadwick, finance
Norman Coombe, head of corporate legal team
Angela Mason-Bell, BDO
Greg Rubin, BDO
Nick Baker, BDO
Ciaran McLaughlin, Grant Thornton
Virginia Wynn-Jones, constitutional team

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

2. CONFIRMATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

The members present were confirmed as the voting members.

3. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

The chair accepted a verbal update from Grant Thornton on the FRC press release into local government audit as late and urgent. The item was noted.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Duncan Whitfield, the strategic director of finance and governance, presented a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a resident of Croydon, and the chair of Croydon Council's independent finance committee.

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 20 October 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

6. REDMOND REVIEW INTO THE OVERSIGHT OF LOCAL AUDIT AND THE TRANSPARENCY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY FINANCIAL REPORTING

Officers updated members on the Redmond Review. Members had questions of the officers.

RESOLVED:

That the committee noted the report.

7. INTERNAL AUDIT AND ANTI-FRAUD PROGRESS REPORT NOVEMBER 2020

Officers presented the report. Members had questions of the officers.

RESOLVED:

The committee noted the report.

8. COVID-19 PANDEMIC: UPDATE NOVEMBER 2020

Officers presented the report. Members had questions of the officers.

Officers undertook to bring back further details on the financial impact of the furlough scheme.

RESOLVED:

That the committee note the report.

9. CAPITAL AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2021-22

Officers presented the report. Members had questions of the officers.

RESOLVED:

That the committee note the report.

10. WHISTLEBLOWING COMPLAINTS AND OUTCOMES

Officers presented the report. Members had questions of the officers.

RESOLVED:

That the committee note the report.

Meeting ended at 8.30 pm

CHAIR:

DATED: