

Audit, Governance and Standards Committee

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee held on Monday 20 September 2021 at 6.30 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

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

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Graham Neale

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Graham Neale was unable to be present in person, but attended via Zoom.

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

Item 10: Statement of accounts: Final was accepted by the chair as late and urgent.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

5. MINUTES

The minutes of the audit, governance and standards committee of 19 July 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

6. GOVERNANCE CONVERSATION: DAVID QUIRKE-THORNTON

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

7. INTERNAL AUDIT AND ANTI-FRAUD UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2021

RESOLVED:

1. That the audit, governance and standards committee noted the report, as attached at Appendix A of the report.

8. COVID-19 PANDEMIC: UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2021

RESOLVED:

1. That the audit, governance and standards committee note the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on spending and income and the government grants to support the council's financial losses in 2021-22.

9. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

RESOLVED:

1. That the audit, governance and standards committee approved the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2020-21 as attached at Appendix 1 of the report.

10. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS: FINAL

This decision included item 11: Audit findings report (ISA 260) – including pension fund.

RESOLVED:

1. That the audit, governance and standards committee:
 - a) considered the matters raised in Grant Thornton's audit findings report for 2020-21 (appendix A of the report) before approval of the council's main accounts
 - b) noted the adjustments to the main accounts as set out in page 29 of the audit findings report (appendix A of the report)
 - c) approved the council's letter of representation (page 38 of appendix A of the report)

- d) considered the matters raised in the Pension Fund audit findings report 2020-21 (appendix B of the report) prior to approval of the Pension Fund accounts
- e) noted the adjustments to the Pension Fund accounts as set out in page 17 of the audit findings report
- f) approved the Pension Fund letter of representation (page 23 of appendix B of the report)
- g) approved the Statement of Accounts 2020-21 (appendix C), subject to any final changes required by the conclusion of the audit, being delegated to the strategic director of finance and governance in consultation with the chair of audit, governance and standards committee.

11. AUDIT FINDINGS REPORTS (ISA 260) - INCLUDING PENSION FUND

This decision was taken as part of item 10: Statement of accounts: Final.

Meeting ended at 8.00 pm

CHAIR:

DATED: