

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee held in the Foundation House,
Icknield Way, Letchworth Garden City
on Monday, 18th December, 2017 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors John Bishop, Jim McNally and Terry Tyler. Councillor John Booth was substituting for Councillor Bishop.

2 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee held on 20 November 2017 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no notification of other business.

4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chairman announced that Members of the public and the press may use their devices to film/photograph, or do a sound recording of the meeting, but she asked them to not use flash and to disable any beeps or other sound notifications that emitted from their devices. In addition, the Chairman had arranged for the sound at this particular meeting to be recorded; and
- (2) The Chairman reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

6 SHARED INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES - UPDATE ON PROGRESS AGAINST THE 2017/18 AUDIT PLAN

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Internal Audit Progress Report for the period to 1 December 2017 be noted;
- (2) That the proposed amendments to the 2017/18 Annual Audit Plan be noted; and
- (3) That the implementation status of high priority recommendations be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To allow the Committee to review, comment and challenge the current status of the Internal Audit Plan.

7 RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

RESOLVED: That it be noted that there were no changes to the Corporate risks for the Quarter.

Monday, 18th December, 2017

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That the revised Risk & Opportunities Management Strategy (Appendix B to the report) and Policy (Appendix D to the report) be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION: To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management.

8 DRAFT BUDGET 2018/2019

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That the following comments of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee be taken into consideration by the Cabinet during its deliberations on the Draft Budget for 2018/2019:

- E9 – Cessation of Area Committee Grants – not totally supported, as the savings figure is shown for 2018/19 onwards, and yet no mechanism is in place to supersede the Area Committee Grants process;
- E11 – Cease the provision of Christmas trees in Town Centres – further discussion should take place with Town Centre Managers with a view to the Town Centre Partnerships/BID organisations taking over this provision;
- ECP12/NCP7/ECP13 – various items relating to or linked to the Lairage Car Park in Hitchin – in view of the relatively low level of use of this Car Park, consideration be given to the completion of the Parking Strategy before (and if) these items were implemented; and
- General – the appendices should be revised at final draft Budget stage to group together the items under common or related themes, rather than being ordered by value.

REASON FOR DECISION: To provide an opportunity for the Committee to comment as appropriate on the Draft Budget for 2018/19.

9 FUTURE MEETING - POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

The Chairman undertook to liaise with the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the process for scrutinising and reviewing the emerging Parking Strategy.