

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 Wednesday, 21st March, 2018 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors John Bishop and Deepak Sangha. Councillor John Booth was substituting for Councillor Bishop.

2 MINUTES - 22 JANUARY 2018

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee held on 22 January 2018 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other item of business tabled.

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 he 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 advised that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest should be declared immediately prior to the item in question.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

6 EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE

RESOLVED: That the External Audit Update report be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Committee to comment on the External Audit Update report.

7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDIT COMMITTEE BRIEFING

RESOLVED: That the Local Government Audit Committee Briefing Paper be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Committee to comment on the Local Government Audit Committee Briefing Paper.

8 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 2 March 2018 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.

9 NHDC AUDIT PLAN FOR 2018/19

RESOLVED: That the proposed NHDC Internal Audit Plan for 2018/19 be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure that the Committee was aware of the proposed NHDC Internal Audit Plan for 2018/19.

10 SHARED ANTI-FRAUD SERVICES (SAFS) - PROPOSED ANTI-FRAUD PLAN FOR 2018/19

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the report be noted;
- (2) That the proposed SAFS/NHDC Anti-Fraud Plan 2018/19 be approved; and
- (3) That the Local Government Association (LGA) Councillors' Workbook on Fraud and Bribery Prevention 2017 be noted, and provided to all Members of the Council.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Committee to monitor the progress and development of SAFS and to keep Members advised on current fraud matters.

11 RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That the reduction in score from a 5 to a 3 of the Office Accommodation Corporate Risk be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION: To comply with the requirements of the Risk and Opportunities Management Strategy.

12 LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT ACTIONS (PLAN 2016/17) UPDATE

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Local Code of Corporate Governance 2018, as attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved; and
- (2) That the current position with the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan and any carry forward actions, as set out in Appendix B to the report, be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To provide the Committee with assurance that it is following through with its commitment to improve its governance arrangements; and to ensure the Local Code of Corporate Governance remains up to date and relevant.

13 THIRD QUARTER REVENUE MONITORING 2017/18

RESOLVED: That the Third Quarter Revenue Budget Monitoring report for 2017/18 be noted.

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RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That Cabinet be requested and encouraged to carry forward the unallocated Area Committee funds from 2017/18 into 2018/19

REASON FOR DECISION: To provide an opportunity for the Committee to comment as appropriate on the Third Quarter Revenue Budget Monitoring report for 2017/18.

14 THIRD QUARTER CAPITAL MONITORING 2017/18

RESOLVED: That the Third Quarter Capital Monitoring report for 2017/18 be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To provide an opportunity for the Committee to comment as appropriate on the Third Quarter Capital Programme Monitoring report for 2017/18.

15 TREASURY MANAGEMENT THIRD QUARTER 2017/18

RESOLVED: That the Third Quarter Treasury Management Monitoring report for 2017/18 be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To provide an opportunity for the Committee to comment as appropriate on the Third Quarter Treasury Management Monitoring report for 2017/18.

16 STATUTORY GUIDANCE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS

RESOLVED: That the contents of the report be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To familiarise Members with the statutory guidance on Local Government Investments issued by the MHCLG.

17 FUTURE MEETING - POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

The Chairman undertook to further liaise with the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the process for scrutinising and reviewing the emerging Parking Strategy; and similarly for scrutinising and reviewing the activities of the Cabinet Sub-Committee (Local Authority Trading Companies' Shareholder).