

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN PART I

MEETING: **Audit Committee – Wednesday 10 June 2015 – 18.00 hrs. - Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors: M McKay (Chair), L Chester, D Cullen, J Gardner, G Lawrence and J Lloyd CC.

ALSO PRESENT: B Mitchell (Independent Member) and H Maneuf (Shared Internal Audit Service)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
<p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Broom and A McGuinness.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	<p>G Moody Ext 2203</p>
2. TERMS OF REFERENCE	
<p>It was RESOLVED that the terms of reference be noted.</p>	<p>G Moody Ext 2203</p>
3. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR	
<p>The Chair invited nominations for the post of Vice-Chair. It was moved, seconded and RESOLVED that Councillor J Gardner be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee for the Municipal Year 2015/2016.</p>	<p>G Moody Ext 2203</p>
4. MINUTES – AUDIT COMMITTEE – 23 MARCH 2015	
<p>It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Audit Committee held on 23 March 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.</p>	<p>G Moody Ext 2203</p>

5. 2014/2015 ANNUAL ASSURANCE STATEMENT AND INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT	
<p>Members asked a number of detailed questions about the report which were answered by the Officer.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Annual Assurance Statement and Internal Audit Annual Report be noted. 2. That the results of the self-assessment as required by both the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme be noted. 3. That the SIAS Audit Charter be accepted. 4. That assurance be given that the scope and resources for internal audit were subject to no inappropriate limitations in 2014/2105. 	<p>H Maneuf Shared Internal Audit Service (SIAS)</p>
6. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT	
<p>The Committee asked a number of questions, which were answered by the Officer, about the relationships between the Council and its contractors for the provision, and security, of materials for housing contracts.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the report be noted.</p>	<p>C Fletcher Ext 2933</p>
7. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2014/2015	
<p>A Member expressed concern that no date was shown for the delivery of the second phase of the Changing Channels Programme and in reply to a request the Assistant Director Finance undertook to report back to the Committee at the November meeting.</p>	<p>C Fletcher Ext 2933</p>

<p>In reply to a question concerning the contract of rates schedule for specialist works the Committee was advised that all contracts were let in accordance with the Contract Standing Orders and Procurement Rules as detailed in the Council's Constitution. Additionally all housing contracts were monitored on a monthly basis.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Council's 2014/2105 Annual Governance Statement, attached as Appendix One to the report, be recommended for approval by the Statement of Accounts Committee. 2. That the governance arrangements outlined in the Stevenage Borough Council Governance Framework 2014/2105, attached as Appendix Two to the report, be noted. 	<p>C Fletcher Ext 2933</p>
<p>8. THE LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE</p>	
<p>It was RESOLVED that the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance be approved and reaffirmed.</p>	
<p>9. URGENT PART I BUSINESS</p>	
<p>None.</p>	
<p>10. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p>	
<p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That under Section 100 (A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1-7 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by SI 2008 No.88. 	

<p>2. That having considered the reasons for the following item being in Part II it was determined that maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighed the public interest in disclosure.</p>	
<p>PART II</p>	
<p>11. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER QUARTER 4 2014/2015</p>	
<p>The Committee received the Strategic Risk Register for Quarter 4.</p> <p>Members asked a number of detailed questions about the report which were answered by the Officer.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Strategic Risk Register Quarter 4 2014/15 (Appendices A1 – A5 of the report) be noted 2. That developments on risk management issues (as outlined in paragraph 4.2 of the report) be noted. 	
<p>12. URGENT PART II BUSINESS</p>	
<p>None.</p>	