

Audit and Standards Committee

Tuesday 20 February 2024

10:00

Oak Room, County Buildings, Stafford

The meeting will be webcast live and archived for 12 months. It can be viewed at the following link: <https://staffordshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

John Tradewell
Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services
12 February 2024

Agenda

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 December 2023** (Pages 5 - 12)
4. **Member Officer Relationships - Update** (Pages 13 - 24)
Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services
5. **Adoption of Statutory Guidance on Settlement Agreements / Constitutional Changes** (Pages 25 - 40)
Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services
6. **Proposed Constitutional Changes - Nexus** (Pages 41 - 44)
Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services
7. **Annual Audit Report - 2020/21** (Pages 45 - 66)
Report of Ernst and Young

8. **External Audit - Verbal Update** (Verbal Report)

- Financial Year 2020/21
- Financial Year 2021/22

Report of Ernst and Young

9. **Updated Annual Governance Statement - 2022/23** (Pages 67 - 132)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services

10. **Internal Audit Charter 2024/25** (Pages 133 - 158)

Report of the Director of Finance

11. **Forward Plan for the Audit and Standards Committee** (Pages 159 - 172)

12. **Exclusion of the Public**

The Chairman to move:

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972 as indicated below”.

Part Two
(reports in this section are exempt)

13. **Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2023** (Pages 173 - 174)

14. **Building Resilient Families and Communities - Grant Verification Checks - Limited Assurances** (Pages 175 - 208)

(Exemption paragraph 3)

Report of the Director of Finance

Membership	
Carolyn Trowbridge (Vice-Chair)	Janice Silvester-Hall
Ross Ward	Mike Worthington (Chair)
Bernard Williams	Arshad Afsar
Philippa Haden	Keith Flunder
Phil Hewitt	Richard Cox
Graham Hutton	Derrick Huckfield
Bernard Peters	Stephen Sweeney
James Salisbury	

Notes for Members of the Press and Public

Filming of Meetings

Staffordshire County Council is defined as a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. The County Council has agreed that public meetings should be the subject of live web transmission 'webcasting'. Fixed cameras are located within meeting room for this purpose.

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If you have privacy concerns about the webcast or do not wish to have your image captured, then please contact the Member and Democratic Services officer named at the top right of the agenda.

Recording by Press and Public

Recording (including by the use of social media) by the Press and Public is permitted from the public seating area provided it does not, in the opinion of the chairman, disrupt the meeting.