

## REMINDER TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON TRAINING

INTRODUCTORY / REFRESHER TRAINING BEING HELD AT 6PM IN COMMITTEE ROOM 2  
PRIOR TO THE COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENCING AT 7PM.



# Audit, Governance and Standards Committee

Thu 7 Jul  
2016  
7.00 pm

Committee Room 2  
Town Hall  
Redditch

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**If you have any queries on this Agenda or any of the decisions taken or wish to exercise any of the above rights of access to information, please contact**

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Democratic Services Officer**

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# Audit, Governance and Standards

## Committee

Thursday, 7th July, 2016

7.00 pm

Committee Room 2, Town Hall

### Agenda

#### Membership:

Cllrs:

David Thain (Chair)  
Jane Potter (Vice-Chair)  
Tom Baker-Price  
Natalie Brookes  
Michael Chalk

Andrew Fry  
Mark Shurmer  
Rachael Smith  
Pat Witherspoon

Independent  
Member:

Dave Jones (non-voting  
co-opted – for Audit and  
Governance)

Feckenham  
Parish Council  
Representative

Alan Smith (non-voting  
co-opted – for Standards)

<b>1. Apologies and named Substitutes</b>	To receive the apologies for absence and details of any Councillor nominated to attend the meeting in place of a member of the Committee.
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b>	To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and/or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests.
<b>3. Minutes</b> (Pages 1 - 14)	To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee held on 21st April 2016.  (Minutes attached)
<b>4. Monitoring Officer's Report - Standards Regime</b> (Pages 15 - 18)  Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services	To receive a report from the Monitoring Officer on any matters of relevance to the Committee.  (Report attached)  <b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b>
<b>5. Feckenham Parish Council Representative's Report - Standards Regime</b>	To receive a report from the Feckenham Parish Council Representative on any matters of relevance to the Committee.  (Oral report)  <b>(Astwood Bank &amp; Feckenham Ward)</b>

# Audit, Governance and Standards

Committee

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<p><b>6. Localism Act 2011 - Standards Regime - Dispensations</b></p> <p>(Pages 19 - 22)</p> <p>Claire Felton, Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services</p>	<p>To receive a report regarding the granting of general dispensations under the standards regime.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p><b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<p><b>7. Grant Thornton - Progress Report and Update</b></p> <p>(Pages 23 - 34)</p>	<p>To update Members on Grant Thornton's progress in delivering their responsibilities as the Council's external auditors, on relevant information relating to Local Government Accounting and other issues, and on Grant Thornton Publications.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p><b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<p><b>8. Internal Audit - Annual Report 2015/16</b></p> <p>(Pages 35 - 48)</p>	<p>To consider the Internal Audit Annual Report for 2015/16 and the 2015/16 Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Services Manager's annual opinion on the overall adequacy of the Council's internal control environment.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p><b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<p><b>9. Section 11 Recommendations Update</b></p> <p>(Pages 49 - 52)</p> <p>Jayne Pickering, Executive Director, Finance and Resources</p>	<p>To present Members with an update on progress following the Section 11 recommendations noted by the Committee on 28th January 2016.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p><b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<p><b>10. Corporate Governance</b></p> <p>(Pages 53 - 60)</p> <p>Jayne Pickering, Executive Director, Finance and Resources</p>	<p>To consider and approve the 2015/16 Annual Governance Statement to be included in the Statement of Accounts</p> <p>(Report attached)</p> <p><b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b></p>

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<p><b>11. Committee Action List and Work Programme</b></p> <p>(Pages 61 - 70)</p> <p>Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive</p>	<p>To consider the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee's Action List and Work Programme.</p> <p>(Action List and Work Programme attached)</p> <p><b>(No Direct Ward Relevance)</b></p>
<p><b>12. Exclusion of the Public</b></p>	<p>Should it prove necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to exclude the public from the meeting at any point during the proceedings in relation to any item(s) of business on the grounds that either exempt and/or confidential information is likely to be divulged, the following resolution(s) will be moved:</p> <p>"That under Section 100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, it/they involve the likely disclosure of <u>exempt</u> information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act, as amended, the relevant paragraphs of that part being (<i>...to be specified by the Chairman at the meeting</i>), and that it is in the public interest to do so.", and/or</p> <p>"That under Section 100 A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, it/they involve the likely disclosure of <u>confidential</u> information which would be in breach of an obligation of confidence."</p> <p><b>The paragraphs under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act are as follows:</b></p> <p><b>Subject to the "public interest" test, information relating to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Para 1 – <u>any individual</u>;</b></li> <li>• <b>Para 2 – the <u>identity of any individual</u>;</b></li> <li>• <b>Para 3 – <u>financial or business affairs</u>;</b></li> <li>• <b>Para 4 – <u>labour relations matters</u>;</b></li> <li>• <b>Para 5 – <u>legal professional privilege</u>;</b></li> <li>• <b>Para 6 – <u>a notice, order or direction</u>;</b></li> <li>• <b>Para 7 – the <u>prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</u></b></li> </ul> <p><b>may need to be considered as 'exempt'.</b></p>