



**Service Director – Legal, Governance and
Commissioning**

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Decision Summary

Committee: CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
Date: FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2023
Committee Clerk: Leigh Webb
TEL: 01484 221000

Chair

Councillor Yusra Hussain

Councillors Attended

Councillor Kath Pinnock

Councillor Harry McCarthy

Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds

Councillor John Taylor

Attendees

Peter Jackson – Head of Internal Audit, Doncaster Council

Aaron Gouldman – Grant Thornton

Stephen Nixon – Grant Thornton

Eamonn Croston – Service Director, Finance

James Anderson – Head of Accountancy

Rachel Firth – Finance Manager

Martin Dearnley – Head of Internal Audit

Simon Straker – Audit Manager

Terence Hudson – Head of Technology

Ex-Officio Members

Councillor Paul Davies (Virtual)

Apologies

Councillor Ammar Anwar

Councillor Joshua Sheard

Councillor Elizabeth Smaje

Councillor Jo Lawson

To receive any apologies for absence, or details of substitutions to the Committee membership.

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Ammar Anwar, Joshua Sheard, Jo Lawson and Elizabeth Smaje.

2 Minutes of Previous Meetings

To approve the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 25 November and 2 December 2022.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meetings held on 25 November and 2 December 2022 be approved as a correct record.

3 Declarations of Interest

Committee Members will be asked to advise if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, which would prevent them from participating in any discussion or vote on an item, or any other interests.

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

Most debates take place in public. This only changes where there is a need to consider certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual. You will be told at this point whether there are any items on the agenda which are to be discussed in private, by virtue of the reports containing information which falls within a category of exempt information as contained at Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

The committee noted the submission of exempt information, as set out at Agenda Items 16 and 17.

5 Deputations/Petitions

The Committee will receive any petitions and hear any deputations from members of the public. A deputation is where up to five people can attend the meeting and make a presentation on some particular issue of concern. A member of the public can also hand in a petition at the meeting but that petition should relate to something on which the body has powers and responsibilities.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 (2), Members of the Public should provide at least 24 hours' notice of presenting a deputation.

No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Public Question Time

The Committee will hear any questions from the general public.

No questions were asked.

7 Public Sector Internal Audit Standards Five Yearly External Review

To consider the External Assessment of Internal Audit Standards

Contact: Martin Dearnley, Head of Risk

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Assessors report be noted.
 - 2) That the Action Plan be approved.
 - 3) That monitoring reports be received by this committee on a quarterly basis.
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8 Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy 2023/24

To consider the report.

Contact: James Anderson, Head of Accountancy

RESOLVED - That the Treasury Management Strategy 2023/24 incorporating (i) the borrowing strategy, (ii) the investment strategy, (iii) the policy for provision of repayment of debt (Minimum Revenue Provision) (iv) the treasury management prudential indicators and (v) the investment strategy (non-treasury investments) be referred to the meeting of council on 8 March 2023.

9 Annual Governance Statement 2021/22

To consider the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22.

Contact: Simon Straker, Audit Manager

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22, subject to amendment of Section 1 of the Action Plan to note the publication date of the next revision of 'Our Council Plan'.

- 2) That authority be delegated to the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive to make necessary minor amendments to the statement.
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10 Audit Findings

To consider the report.

Contact: Grant Thornton, External Auditor

RESOLVED - That the External Audit Findings Report be received and noted.

11 Approval of the Council's final accounts for 2021/22

To consider the report.

Contact: James Anderson, Head of Accountancy

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Statement of Accounts 2021/22 incorporating the Annual Governance Statement be approved.
 - 2) That authority be delegated to the Chair of Corporate Governance and Audit Committee and the Service Director - Finance to sign the final accounts and letter of representation upon completion of the audit.
 - 3) That enquiries be made of the WYPF as to what actions were being taken to prevent the repeat of delays experienced in finalising the accounts.
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12 Dates of Council Meetings - 2023 to 2024 Municipal Year (Reference to Council)

To consider the dates and times for meetings of Council for the 2023-2024 municipal year.

Contact: Samantha Lawton, Head of Governance

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the schedule of Council meetings for the 2023-24 municipal year be submitted to the meeting of Council on 22 February 2023 with a recommendation of approval.
- 2) That the requirements of Council Procedure Rule 5(6) will be complied with either by adding an additional meeting date or being included within one of the meetings listed.

Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 24(5) Councillor Kath Pinnock and Councillor John Taylor asked that their vote against the resolution be recorded.

13 Risk Management Update

To consider the report.

Contact: Martin Dearnley, Head of Risk

RESOLVED – That the risk management report be received and noted.

14 IT Audit Controls Update

To receive an IT Audit Controls Update.

Contact: Terence Hudson, Head of Technology

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the report be received and noted.
 - 2) That the committee was satisfied with the IT controls.
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Primary Care Networks

RESOLVED - That following an informal scoping session to outline the required content, a report on Primary Care Networks be considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

(Note: This item, which did not appear on the agenda for the meeting, was allowed by the Chair to be considered as a matter of urgency in order to ensure the delayed report could be submitted to the Committee at the earliest opportunity).

15 Exclusion of the Public

To resolve that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

RESOLVED – That acting under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as specifically

stated in the undermentioned minutes.

16 Risk Management Update

This report is recommended for consideration in private because the information contained in it is exempt information within part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 namely that the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness in the Council's decision making.

Exempt appendix in relation to Agenda Item 13.

The committee noted the exempt information, which was an appendix to Agenda Item 13.

17 IT Audit Controls Update

This report is recommended for consideration in private because the information contained in it is exempt information within part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 namely that the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness in the Council's decision making.

Exempt appendix in relation to Agenda Item 14.

The committee noted the exempt information, which was an appendix to Agenda Item 14.
