

Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

Urgent Business Procedure

Electoral Division affected: N/A;

Audit, Risk and Governance Committee - Confirmation of Recommendations

(Appendices 'A' – 'C' refer)

Contact for further information:

Debra Jones, Tel: 01772 537996, Democratic Services Officer,

Debra.Jones@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The public webcast of the 25 January, 2021 Audit, Risk and Governance Committee meeting, failed prior to the recommendations for items 8, 9 and 10 (attached at Appendices A - C) being approved.

This report seeks approval for the recommendations, as was agreed in the meeting, but not webcast to the public.

Reason for the use of the Urgent Business Procedure

This decision is urgent as, although the recommendations were agreed in the meeting, this part of the meeting was not webcast, which is a requirement of remote public meetings. The recommendations cannot wait for the next meeting of the committee, as the decisions have been deemed to be business critical by the Director of Corporate Services.

Recommendation

As agreed with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee, the Director of Corporate Services, proposes to approve the following recommendations as approved by the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee at its meeting on 25 January, 2021 :

- (i) Agenda item 8: External Audit Progress Report and Sector Update 2020/21 as of January 2021 (Appendix A). The Director of Corporate Services having recognised that the committee received the report and agreed to note it, considers this report as noted on behalf of the committee.
- (ii) Agenda item 9: the position in relation to the external audit of the council's Statement of Accounts for 2019/20 (Appendix B). The Director of Corporate Services having recognised that the committee received the report and agreed to note it, considers this report as noted on behalf of the committee.
- (iii) Agenda item 9: the Accounting Policies for 2020/21 (Appendix B, Annex 1), be approved.

(iv) Agenda item 10: the Treasury and Non-Treasury Management Strategies and the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement for 2021/22, (Appendix C, Annexes 1 -3), be recommended to Full Council for approval.

Background and Advice

The report for each recommendation in this report were presented, discussed and unanimously approved at the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee at its meeting on 25 January, 2021. However, due to a technical fault, the webcast of the meeting ceased at 1 hour 19 minutes, following the presentation of agenda item 8 and immediately prior to the recommendation being agreed. This meant that the public did not have access to the meeting from this point to the end. The council were not aware of the fault until after the meeting.

Consultations

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee have agreed that, as the recommendations were discussed and agreed in the meeting, the recommendations be approved by the Director of Corporate Services, so the decisions can be implemented without delay.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Legal

The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, state that 'a meeting being "open to the public" includes access to the meeting through remote means including (but not limited to) video conferencing, live webcast, and live interactive streaming and where a meeting is accessible to the public through such remote means the meeting is open to the public whether or not members of the public are able to attend the meeting in person'. This was not satisfied on this occasion, for items 8, 9 and 10 on the 25 January, 2021 Audit, Risk and Governance Committee agenda, due to a technical fault.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		

Decision Taken: Declaration

Chair and Deputy Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

Audit, Risk and Governance Committee - Confirmation of Recommendations

Original recommendation as set out in the report be supported Yes*/No*

.....
(Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee)

Original recommendation as set out in the report be supported Yes*/No*

.....
(Deputy Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee)

Executive Director

The following action has been agreed under the Urgent Business Procedure and after consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee

Audit, Risk and Governance Committee - Confirmation of Recommendations

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..... (Director of Corporate Services)

..... (Date)