

MINUTES

of the joint meeting of the

**AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE
COMMITTEES**

on 18 June 2019 at 7pm

Present:

Councillors H Ayres, R H Ambor, D Clark, P Clark, N Dudley, C Finnecy, D Jones,
J Lardge, J Raven, E Sampson, M Watson and D Wright

Also in attendance - Barry Pryke, BDO (External Auditors)

1. **Election of Chair**

RESOLVED that Councillor D Clark be elected as Chair of this joint meeting.

At this point Councillor D Clark took the Chair.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Bentley and M Sismey.

3. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the joint meeting of the Audit and Governance Committees held on 20 June 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. **Public Question Time**

No questions were asked or statements made by members of the public.

5. **Declarations of Interests**

All Members were reminded to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary interests or other registerable interests where appropriate in any items of business on the meeting's agenda. None were made.

6. **Review of Local Code of Corporate Governance and Annual Governance Statement 2018/19**

Members considered a report on the updated Local Code of Corporate Governance and the Annual Governance Statement 2018/19, which the Council's procedures required be approved at a joint meeting of the Audit and Governance Committees.

The Committee was informed that the 2018/19 Code followed the same CIPFA/SOLACE format as that of the previous year and that there had been no significant changes to the document. The Code, which formed part of the Council's ethical framework, showed how it complied with the seven core principles for managing its governance arrangements set out in the CIPFA/SOLACE guidance.

The Code set the criteria on which the Annual Governance Statement was based. The Statement in turn examined the measures in place to ensure that the Council had effective governance, risk management and internal control processes and was used to identify any shortcomings in those areas. The Statement highlighted those areas of governance regarded as important in 2018/19, how they were addressed and the progress made.

The Committee was satisfied with the draft content of the Code and Strategy and agreed to delegate to the Director of Finance the authority to make any minor amendments to the Annual Governance Statement which may be required ahead of its final publication.

RESOLVED that;

1. The annual review of the Local Code of Corporate Governance be noted and the updated Code attached as Appendix 1 be approved.
2. The Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 attached at Appendix 2 be approved for publication with the Statement of Accounts.
3. The Director of Finance after consultation with the Chairman of Audit or Governance Committee be authorised to make any minor amendments to the Annual Governance Statement before its final publication.

7. **Urgent Business**

There were no matters of urgent business brought before the joint Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.10pm.

Chairman