

**NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026**

A meeting of the Audit & Standards Committee was held on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton.

**Present**

Councillor L. Cvetkovic – Chair

Councillors: D. Brown (Vice-Chair), J. Bonner, C. Cape, T. Cooper, B. Hughes, M. Kondakor, D. Boughan (substitute for A. Brassington), R. Brill (substitute for C. Morris), P. Smith (substitute for S. Carvell) and Mr A. Morgan.

Apologies: Councillors A. Brassington, S. Carvell, C. Morris and C. Phillips.

**PART I – PUBLIC BUSINESS**

The Chair gave thanks to Councillor Bonner for Chairing this Committee over the last couple of years. He praised Councillor Bonner for the good work and high standards he kept as Chair, and advised this is something which is intended to be continued.

ASC1 **Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 be approved and signed by the Chair; and
- b) the minutes of the Extraordinary Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 be approved and signed by the Chair.

ASC2 **Declarations of Interest**

**RESOLVED** that the declarations of interests are as set out in the Schedule which can be viewed on the Council website ([Councillor Declarations of Interests](#)).

ASC3 **Internal Audit Progress Report**

The Audit Manager presented a report which provided the Committee with an update on progress against the approved Internal Audit Plan, which details the performance and activity of Internal Audit since the last Progress Report presented to this Committee.

**RESOLVED** that the Internal Audit Progress Report be considered, and issues identified be subject to a follow-up report as appropriate which include:

- a) consideration be given to looking to raise the status of statutory fire requirements,
- b) Grounds Maintenance – look to keep randomisation of sample sites, but also being more focussed on areas with the most complaints,
- c) prioritisation of crematorium - if there is significant progress an update will be provided to Committee Members prior to the next meeting; and
- d) the dates on the 'progress of Audit Assignments' page be amended to 2026-27 from 2025-26.

ASC4 **Internal Audit Annual Conclusion Report 2025-26**

A Report of the Audit Manager advised Members that Global Internal Audit Standards (GIAS 11.3 - Communicating Results) and the UK Public Sector

Application Note requires the Chief Audit Executive to make an annual conclusion over the effectiveness of the organisation's governance, risk management and control.

The conclusion is provided to support the Council's Annual Governance Statement and reflects the outcomes of the internal audit activity undertaken during the year. The report also provides information on the performance of the Internal Audit service in 2025/26 and an assessment of the conformance against Global Internal Audit Standards.

**RESOLVED** that the Annual Internal Audit Conclusion for 2025-26 be noted, subject to references to Amber Valley Borough Council on the conclusion page within the report being changed to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council.

ASC5 **Annual Treasury Management Review 2025/26**

The Treasury and Technical Business Manager reported that the Council is required through the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code) to report to full Council the annual review.

The report set out the Council's treasury position as at 31st March 2026.

**RESOLVED**

**IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL** that the

- a) Treasury Management Report for 2025/26 – Year End Report be noted; and
- b) Maturity Structure of loans be updated as per section 9 of the report.

ASC6 **Employee Code of Conduct**

A Report of the People Services Manager gave Members the opportunity to consider and approve the revision to the Employee Code of Conduct and recommend changes to the constitution.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the revisions to the Employee Code of Conduct be approved, subject to the word 'organization' within the document being changed to 'organisation' ; and
- b) **IT BE RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL** that the Constitution be amended accordingly.

ASC7 **Appointment of Independent Persons**

A Report of the Monitoring Officer advised Members of the appointment of Independent Persons pursuant to the requirements of the Localism Act 2011. Independent Persons are required by all local authorities to assist in the consideration of Member Code of Conduct complaints.

**RESOLVED** that

**IT BE RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL** that appointment of the persons listed in paragraph 3.6 of the report be approved to the Panel of Independent Persons required by the Localism Act 2011, from the date of the meeting of Council, 1 July 2026, to 30 September 2029; and

ASC8 **Overview of Member Complaints**

The Monitoring Officer provided Committee Members with an update on the overview report presented in respect of complaints against Members.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) a total of two (2) formal complaints against elected Members have been received since the last report came before the Committee (17 March 2026)
- b) one of the complaints has been closed as it was against a former Councillor; and
- c) for the purposes of the 2025/2026 Municipal Year, a total of three complaints were received against elected Members under the Member Code of Conduct. Of those, once has been dealt with (informal resolution), one has been considered at an Assessment Sub-Committee, and the other one has been closed further to 17.1.2.

ASC9 **Audit and Standards Committee Work Programme 2026/27**

A Report of the Assistant Director – Democracy and Governance gave Members the opportunity to consider and approve the Audit and Standards Committee Core Work Programme for 2026-2027 after taking into consideration the purpose and functions of the Committee.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the Audit and Standards Committee Core Work Programme for 2026-2027 be approved; and
- b) authority be given to the Strategic Director – Corporate Resources (also the Section 151 Officer) and Assistant Director – Democracy and Governance (also the Monitoring Officer), to make changes to the work programme in the year in consultation with the Chair of Audit and Standards.

ASC10 **Any other items - Training**

Members were reminded of the Treasury Management training which is taking place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_