

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

19th July 2022

A meeting of the Audit & Standards Committee was held on Tuesday, 19th July 2022 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton. The meeting was recorded and live streamed.

Present

Councillor R Baxter Payne – Chair

Councillors: T. Cooper, L. Cvetkovik, L. Downs, M. Green, J. Hartshorn, J. Kennaugh, J Sheppard (Vice-Chair) R. Tromans and C. Watkins (substitution for Councillor N. Phillips).

Apologies: Councillors N. Phillips and B. Beetham.

PART I – PUBLIC BUSINESS

ACS1 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 15th March 2022, be confirmed, and signed by the Chair.

ACS2 **Declarations of Interest**

As a substitute Councillor for this meeting, the Declarations of Interest for Councillor C. Watkins were not detailed in the Schedule attached to the agenda.

RESOLVED that the declarations of interest are as set out in the Schedule attached to these minutes, with the addition of the Declarations of Interest for Councillor C. Watkins.

ACS3 **Internal Audit Annual Report and Counter Fraud Activity 2021-22**

A report of the Head of Audit and Governance (Interim) and Director for Finance and Enterprise was submitted to the committee for consideration.

The report provided the Panel with information including a statement on conformance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards, the results of the quality assurance and improvement programme, a summary of the work that supports the opinion given relating to the overall adequacy and effectiveness of NBBC's framework of governance, risk management and control.

RESOLVED that

- a) this agenda item be deferred to the next Audit and Standards Committee meeting;
and
- b) the Director for Finance and Enterprise and the Head of Audit and Governance (interim) review how future reports are presented, including consideration being given to the use of an Action Plan.

ACS4 **Internal Audit Charter**

A report had been submitted by the Head of Audit and Governance (Interim) and Director for Finance and Enterprise for the committee to consider.

RESOLVED that this agenda item be deferred to the next Audit and Standards Committee meeting.

ACS5 **Audit and Standards Committee Core Work Programme**

The Panel were presented with the Work Programme for the municipal year 2022-2023.

RESOLVED for the Work Programme to be approved subject to

- a) the Internal Audit Charter and the Internal Audit Annual Report being deferred to the next Audit and Standards Committee meeting; and
- b) consideration being given to the inclusion of a review of the Risk Management arrangements, including the Risk Register, as appropriate.

ACS6 **Any Other Items**

External Audit 2020/21 Progress Update

A report of the Director for Finance and Enterprise was presented to the Committee. The report provided an update to Members regarding the progress of the External Audit for the 2020/21 Statement of Accounts.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

ACS7 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

ACS8 **Investigation Report – Complaint 12/21**

RESOLVED for these agenda items be deferred to the next Audit and Standards Committee meeting.

Chair _____

Audit and Standards Committee - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2022/2023

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	General dispensations granted to all members under s.33 of the Localism Act 2011			Granted to all members of the Council in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing matters - Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 - An allowance, payment given to members - An indemnity given to members - Any ceremonial honour given to members - Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 - Planning and Licensing matters - Allotments - Local Enterprise Partnership
	R. Baxter-Payne (Chair)	Manager Brinklow Quarry Ltd, Brinklow; County Councillor - WCC	Spouse: Self-employed childminder Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Combined Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee • Warwickshire Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (substitute) 	
	B. Beetham	Employed at The George Eliot Hospital; Warwickshire County Council – Camp Hill	Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Hill Urban Village: Pride in Camp Hill Board • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground 	
	T. Cooper	None	Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Hill Urban Village: Pride in Camp Hill Board • Committee of Management of 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground	
	L. Cvetkovic	Head of Geography (Teacher), Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry	<p>The Bulkington Volunteers (Founder); Bulkington Sports and Social Club (Trustee)</p> <p>Member on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Control Partnership Steering Group 	
	L. Downs	River Bars Limited; Coventry Plus Beyond the Plane	<p>Member on the following Outside Body:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hammersley, Smith and Orton Charity 	
	M. Green	Employed by Horiba Mira – Calibration Technician	<p>Chair of Education Standards Committee – St Thomas More School Executive Member – Nuneaton Conservatives. Secretary – St Vincent De Paul Society at Our Lady of the Angels Church. Our Lady of the Angels Church.</p> <p>Member on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship Project for Children. 	
	J. Hartshorn	Employed by Nuneaton Library – Digital Inclusion – WCC (Senior Customer Service Assistant) COVID Community Testing – WCC – Team Leader (Casual)	Member of Nuneaton Conservatives	
	J. Kennaugh	County Councillor W.C.C. Employed by FedEx Express UK Limited.	<p>Member of the W.C.C. Regulatory Committee Member of the Conservative Party Member of UNITE the Union</p> <p>Member on the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQUiP 	
	N. Phillips	Employee of DWP	<p>Member of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Labour CLP • The Fabian Society • The George Eliot Society • The PCS Union 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Credit Union • Stockingford Sports and Allotment Club • Haunchwood Sports and Social Club 	
	J. Sheppard (Vice-Chair)		<p>Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local.</p> <p>Director of Wembrook Community Centre.</p> <p>Member of the Management Committee at the Mental Health Drop-in.</p>	Dispensation to speak and vote on any matters of Borough Plan that relate to the Directorship of Wembrook Community Centre
	R. Tromans	RTC, Nuneaton AFL, Wellingborough	<p>Director of Wembrook Community Centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of the Management Committee at the Mental Health Drop in. <p>Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local.</p> <p>Director of Wembrook Community Centre.</p> <p>Member of the Management Committee at the Mental Health Drop in.</p>	
	C.M. Watkins	Employee of Nutri Pack	<p>Representative on the following outside bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd. (NABCEL) 	