NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

10th September 2024

A meeting of the Audit & Standards Committee was held on Tuesday, 10th September 2024 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton.

Present

Councillor J. Bonner - Chair

Councillors: T. Cooper, L. Cvetkovic, B. Hancox, W. Markham, B. Saru, C. Smith and

M. Wright.

Apologies: D. Brown (Vice-Chair).

PART I – PUBLIC BUSINESS

ASC11 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 2nd July 2024 be approved and signed by the Chair.

ASC12 <u>Declarations of Interest</u>

Councillor C. Smith declared that he is no longer a member of Nuneaton RFC.

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

ASC13 Annual Governance Statement 2023-2024

A Report of the Assistant Director – Governance and Democracy to present the findings of an assessment of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council's corporate governance framework as presented in the Annual Governance Statement.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith

Mr K. Kondakor

Councillor M. Kondakor

RESOLVED that

- a) the findings of the review of corporate governance and internal control as set out in the Annual Governance Statement be considered; and
- b) the Annual Governance Statement be approved.

ASC14 Recommendations from the Constitution Review Working Party

A Report of the Monitoring Officer gave Members the opportunity to consider and approve the recommendations from the Constitution Review Working Party and recommend changes to the Constitution.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith

Mr K. Kondakor

Councillor M. Kondakor

RESOLVED that

- a) the recommendations as set out in the report and appendices be approved; and
- b) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the Constitution be amended accordingly.

ASC15 Treasury Management 2024/25 – Quarter 1 Review

The Finance Manager – Treasury provided a report which advised Members of the Council's treasury position as at 30th June 2024.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith

Mr K. Kondakor

Councillor M. Kondakor

RESOLVED that

- a) the report be noted; and
- b) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the Treasury Management Report for 2024/25 Quarter 1 be noted.

ASC16 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Public Speaker: Mr K. Kondakor

RESOLVED that under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, it being likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph (i) and (ii) of Part I and II of Schedule 12A to the Act.

PART II - EXEMPT ITEM/S

ASC17 Overview of Member Complaints - Update

The Monitoring Officer presented an update on the overview report given to the Committee on 2nd July 2024 in respect of complaints against former members.

RESOLVED that the complaints against former members referred to in Appendix A of the report be closed and no further action be taken.

Audit and Standards – Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2024/2025

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: - 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
J. Bonner	Employed by Etone College (Matrix Academy Trust) - Teacher	The Labour Party (sponsorship) Member of: - The Labour Party - National Education Union	
D. Brown	Employed by H.M Land Registry	Regional Coordinator, Ragdoll Rescue Charity	
T. Cooper			
L. Cvetkovic	Head of Geography (Teacher), Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry	The Bulkington Volunteers (Founder); Bulkington Sports and Social Club (Trustee) Member on the following Outside Bodies: - Building Control Partnership Steering Group	
B. Hancox		The Labour Party (sponsorship) Member of: - The Labour Party - Unite the Union - British Gurkha Veterans Association (Adviser) Representative on the following Outside Bodies: - Nuneaton Festival of Arts - Bedworth Neighbourhood Watch Committee - Nicolas Chamberlaine's	
J. Hartshorn	Employed by Asda Nuneaton	School Foundation Member of Nuneaton Conservatives	

Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
W. Markham		Governor at Ash Green School for SEND	
		Member of Unite Union	
K. Price	Warwickshire County Council	The Labour Party Unite the Union BASW Social Work England Registration	
B. Saru	- Director – Saru Embroidery Ltd - Co-founder and Owner – Fish Tale Ale Beer	Labour Party (sponsorship) Chair of the British Gurkha Veterans Association Representative on the following	
		Outside Bodies: - Armed Forces Covenant	
C. Smith	Software Engineer – Prophet PLC	- Member of Labour Party and Unite - Member of Nuneaton RFC - Safeguarding – Manor Park RFC	
		Representative on the following Outside Bodies: - Astley Charity	
M. Wright			