

**NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**4<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

A meeting of the Audit & Standards Committee was held on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton.

**Present**

Councillor J. Bonner – Chair

Councillors: D. Brown (Vice-Chair), L. Cvetkovic, B. Hancox, W. Markham, K. Price, B. Saru, C. Smith, M. Wright and M. Bird (substitute for T. Cooper).

Apologies: Councillors T. Cooper and J. Hartshorn.

**PART I – PUBLIC BUSINESS**

ASC36 **Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 be approved and signed by the Chair; and
- b) the minutes of the Extraordinary Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 be approved and signed by the Chair.

ASC37 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor W. Markham declared he is no longer the Governor at Ash Green School for SEND.

As a substitute Councillor for this meeting, the declarations of interests for Councillor M. Bird were not in the schedule attached to the agenda for this meeting. They are available to view on the Council website.

**RESOLVED** that the declarations of interest are as set out in the Schedule attached to these minutes, with the addition of the declaration for Councillor W. Markham that he is no longer the Governor at Ash Green School for SEND and the declarations of interest for Councillor M. Bird, who was a substitute Councillor for this meeting.

ASC38 **Treasury Management 2024/25 – Quarter 3 Review**

A Report of the Finance Manager – Treasury and the Assistant Director – Finance set out the Council’s treasury position as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the report be noted; and
- b) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the Treasury Management Report for 2024/25 – Quarter 3 be noted.

ASC39 **Review of Treasury Management Practices (TMPS) 2025/26**

A Report of the Finance Manager – Treasury provided the Committee with the reviewed Treasury Management Practices (TMPs) for approval.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the updated TMPs be noted;

- b) at section 5.4.4 the words ‘the Head of Legal Services’ be removed from the heading, which should now read ‘The Monitoring Officer’; and
- c) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the updated TMPs be approved.

ASC40 **Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2025/26**

A Report of the Finance Manager – Treasury and the Strategic Director – Corporate Resources gave the Audit and Standards Committee an opportunity to discuss the report and to recommend approval of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement to Council.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the report be noted; and
- b) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the Treasury Management Strategy Statement be approved, including all Prudential indicators, the MRP policy and Annual Investment Strategy.

ASC41 **Contract Procedure Rules**

A report of the Assistant Director – Democracy and Governance gave Members an opportunity to review and note the proposed changes to the Contract Procedure Rules, and recommend approval to Council in order to change and update the Constitution.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the proposed changes to the Contract Procedure Rules be noted; and
- b) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the changes to the Contract Procedure Rules be approved and the Constitution be amended accordingly.

ASC42 **Member Induction and Training Programme 2025 - 2027**

The Assistant Director – Democracy and Governance reported on the draft Elected Member Induction and Training programme for 2025-27, including the additional guidance, support and training being offered by third party organisations.

**RESOLVED** that

- a) the draft Elected Member Training programme 2025/2026 for the next municipal year be noted and approved;
- b) Delegated Authority be granted to the Assistant Director – Democracy and Governance to liaise with the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee, to refine and make any necessary minor amendments so the programme can be finalised and implemented; and
- c) the draft Elected Member Induction and Training programme 2026/2027 be noted at this stage.

ASC43 **Any Other Items**

An extraordinary meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee will take place on Tuesday, 25 February 2025.

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

	<b>Name of Councillor</b>	<b>Disclosable Pecuniary Interest</b>	<b>Other Personal Interest</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
	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"> <li>- Housing matters</li> <li>- Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992</li> <li>- An allowance, payment given to members</li> <li>- An indemnity given to members</li> <li>- Any ceremonial honour given to members</li> <li>- Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992</li> <li>- Planning and Licensing matters</li> <li>- Allotments</li> <li>- Local Enterprise Partnership</li> </ul>
	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. -Trustee of the Exhall Education Foundation Charity	
	T. Cooper			
	L. Cvetkovic	Head of Geography (Teacher), Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry	Trustee of 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 School Foundation	

	<b>Name of Councillor</b>	<b>Disclosable Pecuniary Interest</b>	<b>Other Personal Interest</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
	J. Hartshorn	Employed by Asda Nuneaton	Member of Nuneaton Conservatives	
	W. Markham		Governor at Ash Green School for SEND Member of the following bodies: - Unite Union - Free Speech Union - Exhall Multicultural Group	
	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 - Safeguarding – Manor Park RFC Representative on the following Outside Bodies: - Astley Charity	
	M. Wright			