

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

10th January 2023

A meeting of the Audit & Standards Committee was held on Tuesday, 10 January 2023 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton. The meeting was recorded and live streamed.

Present

Councillor R Baxter Payne – Chair

Councillors: B. Beetham, L. Downs, M. Green, J Sheppard (Vice- Chair), R. Tromans, D. Brown (substitution for Councillor L. Cvetkovik) S. Harbison (substitution for Councillor T. Cooper) and B. Hammersley (substitution for Councillor J. Hartshorn).

Apologies: Councillors T. Cooper, J. Hartshorn, L. Cvetkovik and N. Phillips.

PART I – PUBLIC BUSINESS

ACS27 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 8th November 2022, be confirmed, and signed by the Chair.

ACS28 **Declarations of Interest**

As substitute Councillors for this meeting, the Declarations of Interest for Councillors D. Brown, S. Harbison and B. Hammersley 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 Councillors D. Brown, S. Harbison and B. Hammersley.

ACS29 **Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000**

A report of the Director for Planning and Regulation provided the Committee with the findings of the Inspector from the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith and Councillor K. Kondakor

RESOLVED that

- a) the findings of the Inspector from the Investigator Powers Commissioner's Office, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be noted; and
- b) that the Council's policy on the use of covert surveillance, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, be approved.

ACS30 **Briefing Note**

A report of the Head of Audit and Governance provided the Committee with responses to the questions raised following the presentation of the Head of Audit and Governance Annual Report 2021-22 on 8th November 2022.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith and Councillor K. Kondakor.

RESOLVED that

- a) the additional information provided in section 4 of the report be noted; and
- b) a report on Post Project Reviews be presented at the next meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee.

ACS31 **Internal Audit Plan 2022-23**

The Head of Audit and Governance presented the proposed changes to the approved internal audit plan for 2022-23.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith and Councillor K. Kondakor.

RESOLVED that the proposed changes to the internal audit plan, as set out in Appendix A of the report, be approved.

ACS32 **Review of Risk Management Policy and Strategy**

A report of the Head of Audit and Governance was presented, providing the Committee with the updated Risk Management Policy and Strategy document.

Public Speakers: Mr P. Smith and Councillor K. Kondakor.

RESOLVED that

- a) the revised Risk Management Policy and Strategy document be approved; and
- b) that a recommendation be made to Council that the Constitution be updated accordingly.

ACS33 **Any Other Items**
Statement of Accounts 2021/22 Audit Update

A report of the Director for Finance and Enterprise and External Auditors, provided the Committee with an update regarding the progress on the External Audit of the 2021/22 Statement of Accounts.

Public Speaker: Councillor K. Kondakor.

RESOLVED that the progress report be noted.

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 Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground 	
	L. Cvetkovic	Head of Geography	The Bulkington Volunteers	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
		(Teacher), Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry	(Founder); Bulkington Sports and Social Club (Trustee) Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Control Partnership Steering Group 	
	L. Downs	River Bars Limited; Coventry Plus Beyond the Plane	Member on the following Outside Body: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hammersley, Smith and Orton Charity 	
	M. Green	Employed by Horiba Mira – Calibration Technician	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 Member of the George Eliot Fellowship. Member of the Nuneaton Education Strategy Board Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship Project for Children. 	
	J. Hartshorn	Employed by Asda Nuneaton	Member of Nuneaton Conservatives	
	J. Kennaugh	County Councillor W.C.C. Employed by FedEx Express UK Limited.	Member of the W.C.C. Regulatory Committee Member of the Conservative Party Member of UNITE the Union Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQUIP 	
	N. Phillips	Employee of DWP	Member of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Labour CLP • The Fabian Society • The George Eliot Society • The PCS Union • Central Credit Union • Stockingford Sports and Allotment Club • Haunchwood Sports and Social Club 	
	J. Sheppard (Vice-Chair)		Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local. Director of Wembrook	Dispensation to speak and vote on any matters of Borough Plan that relate to the Directorship of Wembrook Community Centre

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Community Centre. Member of the Management Committee at the Mental Health Drop-in.	
	R. Tromans	RTC, Nuneaton AFL, Wellingborough	W.C.C. Warwick Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton Neighbourhood Watch Committee Hospice Charity	