

ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

27 MARCH 2018

PRESENT

Councillor N. Evans (in the Chair).

Councillors C. Boyes (Vice-Chairman), J. Baugh, B. Brotherton, P. Lally, A. Mitchell and J.A. Wright

In attendance

Head of Financial Management	(G. Bentley)
Audit and Assurance Manager	(M. Foster)
Democratic and Scrutiny Officer	(N. Owen)

Also in attendance

M. Heap, Grant Thornton UK LLP
T Rooney, Grant Thornton UK LLP

42. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2018, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

43. AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT (MARCH 2018)

The Committee received a report of Grant Thornton UK LLP on the progress at March 2018 in delivering its responsibilities as the Authority's external auditor.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

44. EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

The Council's external auditor, Grant Thornton UK LLP, submitted the Audit Plan for Trafford Council for the year ended 31 March 2018, which outlined its audit strategy and plan to deliver the audit.

RESOLVED: That the external auditor's Audit Plan for the year ended 31 March 2018, be noted.

45. INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER AND STRATEGY

The Committee received a report of the Audit and Assurance Manager providing Members with the Internal Audit Charter and Strategy documents for approval following their recent review. The documents were previously updated in March 2017 and were recently reviewed and updated, in agreement with the Corporate Leadership Team. The changes are proposed in order to be consistent with updates made in 2017/18 to the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) as highlighted in the report at the relevant paragraphs

RESOLVED: That the Internal Audit Charter and Strategy be approved.

46. INTERNAL AUDIT OPERATIONAL PLAN 2018/19

The Committee received a report of the Audit and Assurance Manager providing, at a high level, the proposed Internal Audit Operational Plan for 2018/19. The report detailed how the plan was formulated, and advised of the reporting and performance monitoring process.

Members asked questions in relation to school audit reports and how audit visits to schools were scheduled.

RESOLVED: That the 2018/19 Internal Audit Plan be approved.

47. BUDGET MONITORING 2017/18 - PERIOD 10 (APRIL 2017 TO JANUARY 2018)

The Committee received a report of the Executive Member for Finance and the Chief Finance Officer informing Members of the current 2017/18 forecast outturn figures relating to both Revenue and Capital budgets. It also summarised the latest forecast position for Council Tax and Business Rates within the Collection Fund.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

48. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER 2017/18 (MARCH 2018 UPDATE)

The Committee received a report of the Audit and Assurance Manager providing Members with an update on the strategic risk environment, setting out developments relating to the management of each of the Council's strategic risks. It was noted that the risk level in relation to the availability of burial ground within the area had been lowered from medium to low risk.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

49. ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME - 2017/18

The Committee received a report of the Audit and Assurance Manager setting out the updated work plan for the Committee for the 2017/18 municipal year.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

50. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Chairman thanked the Committee Members, external auditors, and Council Officers for their hard work and support throughout the municipal year.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and finished at 7.25 pm