

# Jeff Hughes

Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services

**MEETING**: AUDIT COMMITTEE

**VENUE**: COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD

**DATE**: WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2013

**TIME** : 7.00 PM

PLEASE NOTE TIME AND VENUE

## **MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Councillor J Ranger (Chairman) Councillors W Mortimer (Vice-Chairman), M Pope, R Sharma, N Wilson, J Wing and J Wyllie

## **Substitutes**

Conservative Group: Councillors D Andrews

(Note: Substitution arrangements must be notified by the absent Member to Democratic Services 24 hours before the meeting)

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#### DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

- 1. A Member, present at a meeting of the Authority, or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee of the Authority, with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in any matter to be considered or being considered at a meeting:
  - must not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting;
  - must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting;
  - must disclose the interest to the meeting, whether registered or not, subject to the provisions of section 32 of the Localism Act 2011;
  - if the interest is not registered and is not the subject of a pending notification, must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days;
  - must leave the room while any discussion or voting takes place.
- 2. A DPI is an interest of a Member or their partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom they are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were civil partners) within the descriptions as defined in the Localism Act 2011.
- 3. The Authority may grant a Member dispensation, but only in limited circumstances, to enable him/her to participate and vote on a matter in which they have a DPI.

#### 4. It is a criminal offence to:

- fail to disclose a disclosable pecuniary interest at a meeting if it is not on the register;
- fail to notify the Monitoring Officer, within 28 days, of a DPI that is not on the register that a Member disclosed to a meeting;
- participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which a Member has a DPI;
- knowingly or recklessly provide information that is false or misleading in notifying the Monitoring Officer of a DPI or in disclosing such interest to a meeting.

(Note: The criminal penalties available to a court are to impose a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and disqualification from being a councillor for up to 5 years.)

#### **AGENDA**

## 1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

## 2. Minutes (Pages 7 - 16)

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2013

#### 3. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Member's Declarations of Interest and Party Whip arrangements.

#### 4. Chairman's Announcements

- 5. <u>Update on Shared Internal Audit Service Report: Section 106 Audit</u> Recommendations (Pages 17 38)
- 6. External Audit Report 2012/13 Annual Audit Letter (Pages 39 52)
- 7. Council's response to 2012/13 Annual Audit Letter (Pages 53 58)
- 8. External Audit report Planned Audit Fee for 2013/14 (Pages 59 62)
- 9. <u>Update of Implementation of Annual Governance Statement Action Plan</u> (Pages 63 72)
- 10. <u>Risk Management Monitoring Report July to 30 September 2013</u> (Pages 73 82)
- 11. Work Programme (Pages 83 88)

# 12. <u>Urgent Business</u>

To consider such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the

meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration and is not likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information.