



*Head of Legal and
Democratic Services*

MEETING : AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
VENUE : COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD
DATE : WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2016
TIME : 7.00 PM

PLEASE NOTE TIME AND VENUE

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Councillor M Pope (Chairman)
Councillors D Abbott, A Alder, P Boylan, B Deering (Vice-Chairman),
I Devonshire, P Kenealy, W Mortimer, S Stainsby and C Woodward

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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.)

Public Attendance

East Herts Council welcomes public attendance at its meetings and will provide a reasonable number of agendas for viewing at the meeting. Please note that there is seating for 27 members of the public and space for a further 30 standing in the Council Chamber on a “first come first served” basis. When the Council anticipates a large attendance, an additional 30 members of the public can be accommodated in Room 27 (standing room only), again on a “first come, first served” basis, to view the meeting via webcast.

If you think a meeting you plan to attend could be very busy, you can check if the extra space will be available by emailing committee.services@eastherts.gov.uk or calling the Council on 01279 655261 and asking to speak to Democratic Services.

Audio/Visual Recording of meetings

Everyone is welcome to record meetings of the Council and its Committees using whatever, non-disruptive, methods you think are suitable, which may include social media of any kind, such as tweeting, blogging or Facebook. However, oral reporting or commentary is prohibited. If you have any questions about this please contact Democratic Services (members of the press should contact the Press Office). Please note that the Chairman of the meeting has the discretion to halt any recording for a number of reasons, including disruption caused by the filming or the nature of the business being conducted. Anyone filming a meeting should focus only on those actively participating and be sensitive to the rights of minors, vulnerable adults and those members of the public who have not consented to being filmed.

AGENDA

1. Training item - Business Continuity Update

2. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

3. Minutes (Pages 7 - 16)

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2016.

4. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Members' Declarations of Interest

5. External Auditor Appointment (Pages 17 - 30)

6. Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17 - Mid Year Review (Pages 31 - 52)

7. External Audit - 2015/16 Annual Audit Letter (Pages 53 - 78)

8. Council's response to 2015/16 Annual Audit letter (Pages 79 - 82)

9. External Audit - Planning Audit Fees for 2016/17 (Pages 83 - 86)

10. Update on implementation of Annual Governance Statement Action Plan (Pages 87 - 92)

11. Risk Management Strategy - Update (Pages 93 - 136)

12. Risk Management Monitoring Report 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016 (Pages 137 - 148)

13. Complaints Lodged with the Monitoring Officer

Verbal update from the Monitoring Officer.

14. Audit and Governance Work Programme (Pages 149 - 154)

15. Urgent Business

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