



James Ellis
Head of Legal and Democratic
Services

MEETING : AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
VENUE : COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD
DATE : THURSDAY 29 JULY 2021
TIME : 7.00 PM

PLEASE NOTE TIME AND VENUE

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Councillor Mark Pope (Chairman)
Councillors A Alder, R Fernando, A Huggins, T Stowe, R Townsend and
A Ward-Booth (Vice-Chairman)

Substitutes

Conservative Group: Councillors J Burmicz and A Curtis

(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.)

Public Attendance

The Coronavirus Act 2020 to allow for local authorities to continue committee meetings online expired on 6th May 2021. Therefore, committee meetings must now be held face to face.

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The Council is moving to a paperless policy in respect of Agendas at Committee meetings. From 1 September 2019, the Council will no longer be providing spare copies of Agendas for the Public at Committee Meetings. The mod.gov app is available to download for free from app stores for electronic devices.

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Minutes - 27 May 2021 (Pages 7 - 18)

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on Thursday, 27 May 2021.

3. Chairman's Announcements

4. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Members' declarations of interest.

5. Shared Internal Audit Service (SIAS) Internal Audit Plan Progress Report (Pages 19 - 36)

6. Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 (Pages 37 - 78)

7. Receipt of the External Auditor's Audit Planning Report (Pages 79 - 136)

8. Work Programme Proposals 2020-21 (Pages 137 - 148)

9. Urgent Items

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.