



Worcester
CITY COUNCIL

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, 10th July, 2024

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: The Guildhall

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Information for Members of the Public

Access to the Guildhall is via the front entrance in the High Street. For evening meetings, please use the accessible entrance door on the right side of the forecourt. The nearest car park is Copenhagen Street (pay and display). The nearest bike stand for cyclists is in Copenhagen Street, opposite The Kiln.

If you are a wheelchair user or have restricted mobility, access to the Guildhall can be gained through the accessible entrance door on the forecourt. There is dedicated accessible parking at the rear (access via Copenhagen Street). Most meetings are held on the ground floor, which can be reached by using a lift.

Part I of the Agenda includes items for discussion in public. You have the right to inspect copies of Minutes and reports on this part of the Agenda as well as background documents used in the preparation of these reports. Details of the background papers appear at the foot of each report. Part II of the Agenda (if applicable) deals with items of 'Exempt Information' for which it is anticipated that the public may be excluded from the meeting and neither reports nor background papers are open to public inspection.

Please note that this is a public meeting and members of the public and press are permitted to report on the proceedings. "Reporting" includes filming, photographing, making an audio recording and providing commentary on proceedings. Any communicative method can be used to report on the proceedings, including the internet, to publish, post or share the proceedings. Accordingly, the attendance of members of the public at this meeting may be recorded and broadcast. By choosing to attend this public meeting you are deemed to have given your consent to being filmed or recorded and for any footage to be broadcast or published.

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At the start of the meeting under the item 'Public Participation' up to fifteen minutes in total is allowed for members of the public to present a petition, ask a question or comment on any matter on the Agenda. Participants need to indicate that they wish to speak by 4.30 p.m. on the last working day before the meeting by writing, telephoning or E-Mailing the officer mentioned below.

If you have any general enquires or queries about this Agenda or require any details of background papers, further documents or information, or to discuss arrangements for the taking of photographs, film, video or sound recording please contact the Lead Officer, Margaret Johnson, Democratic Services Administrator, Guildhall, Worcester WR1 2EY. Telephone: 01905 722085 (direct line); E-Mail Address: committeeadministration@worcester.gov.uk.

This agenda can be made available in large print, braille, on PC disk, tape or in a number of ethnic minority languages. Please contact the above named officer for further information.

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Audit and Governance Committee
Wednesday, 10 July 2024

Members of the Committee: -

Chair: Councillor Neil Laurenson (G)
Vice-Chair: Councillor Matthew Lamb (L)

Councillor Jenny Barnes (LCo)
Councillor Zoe Cookson (L)
Councillor Jill Desayrah (L)

Councillor Jessie Jagger (LD)
Councillor Alex Mace (G)

C= Conservative G = Green L = Labour LCo = Labour and Co-operative
LD = Liberal Democrat

AGENDA

Part 1
(ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION IN PUBLIC)

1. **Appointment of Substitutes**

To receive details of any Member nominated to attend the meeting in place of a Member of the Committee.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of interest.

3. **Public Participation**

Up to a total of fifteen minutes can be allowed, each speaker being allocated a maximum of five minutes, for members of the public to present a petition, ask a question or comment on any item on the Agenda or within the remit of the Committee.

4. **Minutes**

Of the meeting held on 20th March 2024 to be approved and signed.

To follow.

5. **External Audit Progress 2021/22 to 2023/24**

Page(s): 1 - 2

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Mark Baldwin, Head of Finance
Tel: 01905 722007

That the Committee:

1. notes the external auditor's progress and plans with the audits of the accounts for 2021/22 and 2022/23; and
2. notes the appointment of the new auditor to commence with the audit for 2023/24.

6. **Annual Report of Internal Audit 2023/24**

Page(s): 3 - 20

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Chris Green, Head of Internal Audit Shared Service
Tel: 01905 722531

That the Committee notes the report.

7. **Internal Audit Plan for 2024/25**

Page(s): 21 - 32

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Chris Green, Head of Internal Audit Shared Service
Tel: 01905 722531

That the Internal Audit plan for 2024/25 be approved, with or without amendments.

8. **Annual Governance Statement 2023/24**

Page(s): 33 - 46

Ward(s): All Wards

Contact Officer: Sian Stroud, Corporate Director, Planning and Governance
Tel: 01905 722017

That the Committee approves the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 at Appendix 1 for sign off by the Leader of the Council and the Managing Director for inclusion in the Annual Statement of Accounts.

9. **Any Other Business**

Which in the opinion of the Chairman is of sufficient urgency as to warrant consideration.