

Meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee

**Wednesday, 24th April, 2024 at 6.00pm
in Committee Room 3
at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley**

Agenda - Public Session (Meeting open to the public and press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To report the appointment of any substitute members serving for this meeting of the Committee.
3. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct.
4. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 19th February, 2024 as a correct record (Pages 4 – 21)
5. [External Audit Grant Thornton Annual Audit Plan 2023-24 \(Pages 22 – 55\)](#)
6. [Accounting Policies, Critical Accounting Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty \(Pages 56 – 91\)](#)
7. [Risk Management Report \(Pages 92 – 117\)](#)
8. [Internal Audit Plan 2024-25 \(Pages 118 – 139\)](#)
9. [Audit and Standards Committee Annual Report 2023-24 \(Pages 140 – 152\)](#)
10. [Audit and Standards Committee Progress Tracker \(Pages 153 – 155\)](#)
11. To consider any questions from Members to the Chair where two clear days notice has been given to the Monitoring Officer (Council Procedure Rule 11.8).
12. Resolution to exclude the public and press



Chair to move:


“That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information under Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, for the reasons stated on the agenda.”

Under the provisions of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the Monitoring Officer has decided that there will be no advance disclosure of the following report because the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure.

Agenda - Private Session
(Meeting not open to the public and press)

13. [Annual Fraud Report \(Pages 156 – 180\)](#)

(The report contains exempt information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual(s) and to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information))



Chief Executive

Dated: 16th April, 2024

Distribution:

Members of the Audit and Standards Committee:

Councillor A Lees (Chair)

Councillor D Borley (Vice-Chair)

Councillors S Ali, T Creed, J Cowell, M Evans, J Foster, S Henley and W Little

Please note the following:

Health and Safety

- In view of ongoing health and safety requirements in the workplace, you are asked to comply with any safety instructions applicable to the venue. Various mitigating actions are in place to minimise any risks and to ensure we adhere to the latest guidance.

Public Gallery

- Seating in the public gallery is subject to limits on capacity and will be allocated on a ‘first come’ basis.

Toilets

- Toilet facilities are available on site.

No smoking

- There is no smoking on the premises in line with national legislation. It is an offence to smoke in or on the premises. You cannot use e-cigarettes and/or similar vaping devices.

In Case of Emergency

- In the event of the alarms sounding, please leave the building by the nearest exit. There are Officers who will assist you in the event of this happening, please follow their instructions.

Submitting Apologies for Absence

- Elected Members can submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (see our contact details below).

Private and Confidential Information

- Any agendas containing reports with 'exempt' information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that information containing private and personal data is kept safe and secure at all times. Confidential papers should be handed to Democratic Services for secure disposal. If you choose to retain the documents you should ensure that the information is securely stored and destroyed within six months.

Recording and Reporting

- The use of mobile devices or electronic facilities is permitted for the purposes of recording/reporting during the public session of the meeting. The use of any such devices must not disrupt the meeting – Please turn off any ringtones or set your devices to silent.

General

- Public Wi-Fi is available.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website www.dudley.gov.uk

If you need advice or assistance

- If you (or anyone you know) requires assistance to access the venue, or if you have any other queries, please contact Democratic Services - Telephone 01384 815238 or E-mail Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk

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