

AUDIT COMMITTEE

27 February 2020

Present:-

Councillors J Clatworthy (Chair), I Hall (Vice-Chair), J Berry, J Brazil, R Peart, A Saywell and H Ackland

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Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November be signed as a correct record.

78

External Audit Plan- Devon County Council 2019/20

The Committee received the report of Grant Thornton setting out the external auditors' audit plan covering 2019/20, including challenges and opportunities for the Council; developments relevant to the Council's business; materiality; significant risks; value for money; results of interim audit work; key dates for the audit work and external auditors' fees.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Saywell, **SECONDED** by Councillor Hall and

RESOLVED that the report and findings be noted.

79

External Audit Plan - Devon Pension Fund 2019/20

The Committee received the report of Grant Thornton setting out the external audit plan of the Devon Pension Fund covering 2019/20, including challenges and opportunities for the Council, wider developments relevant to the Council's business, significant risks, results of interim audit work, key dates for the audit work and the external auditors' fees.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hall, **SECONDED** by Councillor Peart and

RESOLVED that the report and findings be noted.

80

Internal Audit Plan 2020/21

The Committee considered the report of the County Treasurer outlining key challenges and opportunities arising from the Council's corporate goals and strategic risk registers, overview of audit coverage, core activity including coverage days, annual governance framework, proposed reviews and associated risks and deferred reviews.

Members highlighted the potential for further future work with the Scrutiny Committees.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Saywell, **SECONDED** by Councillor Peart and

RESOLVED that the Internal Audit Plan for 2020/21 be endorsed.

81

Internal Audit Charter 20/21

The Committee considered the Report of the County Treasurer (CT/20/22) and the accompanying Internal Audit Charter, outlining the purpose, authority and principal responsibilities of the Council's internal audit service, provided by the Devon Audit Partnership. The Charter has been produced to meet the requirements set of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Berry, **SECONDED** by Councillor Ackland and
RESOLVED that the Internal Audit Charter for the year 2020/21 be endorsed.

82 **Internal Audit Strategy 2020/21**

The Committee considered the Report of the County Treasurer (CT/20/23) and the accompanying Internal Audit Strategy, outlining the purpose, authority and principal responsibilities of the Council's internal audit service, provided by the Devon Audit Partnership. The Strategy had been produced to meet the requirements set by the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Peart, **SECONDED** by Councillor Berry and
RESOLVED that the Internal Audit Strategy for the year 2020/21 be endorsed.

83 **Audit Committee Annual Plan 2020**

The Committee noted the current Work Programme and

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Clatworthy, **SECONDED** by Councillor Peart, and

RESOLVED that the current outline Work Programme be noted subject to the inclusion of a report on the Redmond Review and the new Value for Money audit approach to the November Meeting.

84 **External Audit Update**

The Committee received the Report of Grant Thornton outlining the progress made in delivering their responsibilities as the Council's external auditors.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Hall, **SECONDED** by Councillor Clatworthy and

RESOLVED that the report and findings be noted.

85 **Doing What Matters Project**

The members received a verbal update from the Head of Organisational Change and Organisational Change Strategic Interventionist on the continued work of the County Council's transformation approach called Doing What Matters.

During discussion reference was made to multiple areas of the Council with which Doing What Matters has been working. This included:

- Adult Care Operations and Health, particularly surrounding the Community Health & Care Team (Northern Devon)
- Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste, particularly surrounding Highways Asset Management, Highways Safety Defects - Public Pothole Reporting and Highways Safety Defects - Signage, Lighting and Guarding
- Transport Co-ordination Service, Passenger Transport (SEND)
- Children in Care
- Leadership Learning

Members welcomed the presentation and noted the work being undertaken to drive organisational improvement. Members also expressed interest at hearing from the Doing What Matters Team further in the future.

***DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 2.15 pm and finished at 4.15 pm