



Audit Committee

Notice of a meeting, to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL on Tuesday 5th March 2013 at 7.00 pm

The Members of this Committee are:-

Cllr. Clokie (Chairman)

Cllr. Link (Vice-Chairman)

Cllrs. Marriott, Michael, Smith, Taylor, Wright, Yeo

NB: Under the Council's Public Participation Scheme, members of the public can submit a petition to the Executive if the issue is within its terms of reference or ask a question or speak concerning any item contained on this Agenda (Procedure Rule 9 refers)

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1. **Apologies/Substitutes** – To receive Notification of Substitutes in accordance with Procedure Rule 1.2(iii)
2. **Declarations of Interest (see “Advice to Members” overleaf)**
 - (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) under the Localism Act 2011 relating to items on this agenda. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared, and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated.

A Member who declares a DPI in relation to any item will need to leave the Council Chamber for the whole of that item, and will not be able to speak or take part (unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted).

- (b) Other Significant Interests (OSI) under the Kent Code of Conduct as adopted by the Council on 19 July 2012, relating to items on this agenda. The nature as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared, and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated.

A Member who declares an OSI in relation to any item will need to leave the Council Chamber before the debate and vote on that item (unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted). However, prior to leaving, the Member may address the Committee in the same way that a member of the public may do so.

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- (c) Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests not required to be declared under (a) or (b), i.e. announcements made for transparency reasons alone, such as:
- membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items, or
 - where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person, or
 - where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc, but not his/her financial position

[Note: an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc; OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc, would both probably constitute an OSI].

Advice to Members on Declarations of Interest:

- (a) Government Guidance on DPI is available in DCLG's Guide for Councillors, at
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/5962/2193362.pdf
- (b) The Kent Code of Conduct was adopted by the Full Council on 19 July 2012, and a copy can be found with the papers for that Meeting.
- (c) If any Councillor has any doubt about the existence or nature of any DPI or OSI which he/she may have in any item on this agenda, he/she should seek advice from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer or from other Solicitors in Legal and Democratic Services as early as possible, and in advance of the Meeting.

3. **Minutes** – To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of this Committee held on the 4th December 2012

Part I – For Decision

4. Future of the Fraud Investigation Team
5. External Audit Plan – Grant Thornton
6. External Audit Update – Grant Thornton
7. Certification of Grant Claims Annual Report – Grant Thornton
8. Assurance from those Charged with Governance
9. Presentation of Financial Statements
10. Strategic Risk Review
11. Annual Governance Statement – Progress on Remediating Highlighted Significant Areas of Governance

12. Internal Audit Operational Plan 2013/14

13. Public Sector Internal Audit Standards

Part II – Monitoring/Information Items

14. Audit Committee – Future Works Programme

15. Report Tracker and Future Meetings

DS/AEH
25th February 2013
