

HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

30 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr DS Cope - Chairman  
Cllr A Pendlebury – Vice-Chairman  
Cllr MA Cook, Cllr REH Flemming, Cllr L Hodgkins, Cllr C Ladkin, Cllr MR Lay,  
Cllr BR Walker, Cllr HG Williams, Cllr P Williams and Cllr K Morrell

Members in attendance: Councillors

Officers in attendance: Rebecca Valentine-Wilkinson, Ashley Wilson and Sarah Knowles (Mazars)

218 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Roberts with the substitution of Councillor Morrell authorised in accordance with council procedure rule 10.

219 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Pendlebury, seconded by Councillor Flemming and

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

220 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

221 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT

Members were provided with an update on the 2021/22 internal audit plan.

As part of this the auditors reported that they had signed off Local Authority delivery on a grant received to ensure money had been spent in accordance with grant conditions.

After a question from members around risk management it was confirmed that the internal auditors had looked at risk registers and policies and would be doing some refresh work on the importance of risk.

It was moved by Councillor Flemming, seconded by Councillor Hodgkins and

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

222 FINANCIAL REPORTING COUNCIL'S REVIEW OF EXTERNAL AUDIT QUALITY 2021/22

Members were updated on a summary of quality reviews done by the Financial Reporting Council in relation to external Audit suppliers, including the Council's own external Audit supplier Ernst and Young.

Discussion took place on the staffing and recruitment pressures faced by external audit firms.

Members noted the report.

223 NEW EXTERNAL AUDIT APPOINTMENT FROM 2023/24 TO 2027/28

Members were updated on the outcome of the external audit appointment arrangements completed by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) on our behalf for the period spanning 2023/24 to 2027/28.

After a question from members around their concern of significant rises in audit fees, it was confirmed that the council should anticipate a major re-set of fees involving an increase of approximately 150%, noting that the actual fees would depend on the amount of work required.

It was moved by Councillor Hodgkins, seconded by Councillor Pendlebury and

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

(The Meeting closed at 7.00 pm)

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CHAIRMAN