

Harborough District Council



Report to Council Meeting of 24 July 2023

Title:	Update from the Audit and Standards Committee
Status:	Public
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Lead Councillor:	Chairman of the Audit and Standards Committee, Cllr Gair
Appendices:	n/a

Summary

- i. This report summarises the activities of the Audit and Standards Committee since the last meeting of Council.

Recommendations

1. That Council note the report

Reasons for Recommendations

- ii. The Council Procedure Rules contained within the Council's constitution provide that Council will, at an ordinary meeting of the Council, receive a report from each committee and receive questions and answers on that report.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. This report updates Council on the activity of the Audit and Standards Committee since the last meeting of Council.

2. Background

- 2.1. The Council's constitution includes, at Part 4, Council Procedure Rules. These procedure rules apply to meetings of the full Council. They also largely apply to committee and sub-committee meetings, but do not apply to Overview and Scrutiny meetings, or to meetings

of Cabinet, which bodies each have their own procedure rules, also contained in Part 4 of the Constitution.

- 2.2. Council Procedure Rule 2 sets out the order of business to be transacted at an ordinary meeting of Council, stating at 2.10 that it will “receive reports from the Council’s Committees and receive questions and answers on those reports”.

3. Details

- 3.1. Members will recall that Annual Council resolved to maintain existing Committees. Nominations were made by all groups to the Committee. Training has been offered to the committee members by officers and also via the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accounting (CIPFA). The Committee is scheduled for its inaugural meeting of the administration on 26 July 2023.

4. Implications of Decisions

Corporate Priorities

- 4.1. The Council is committed to delivering its corporate priorities as set out in its corporate plan. Providing the information contained within this report gives assurance that the Council continues to work to deliver these priorities.

Consultation

- 4.2. No consultation is required and the Audit and Standards Committee is yet to meet.

Financial

- 4.3. The Audit and Standards Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial performance of the Council. This report has no direct financial consequences for the budget set by the Council.

Legal

- 4.4. This report provides an update on the work undertaken to prepare for the first meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee and ensures the committee complies with its obligations to Council as set out in the Council Procedure Rules.

4.5. Environment Implications

- 4.6. This update report does not impact directly upon the Council’s commitment to achieving net zero carbon.

Risk Management

- 4.7. The contents of this report do not pose any risk implications for the Council as it provides an update on the work of the Audit and Standards Committee.

Equalities Impact

- 4.8. The Council has a statutory duty to consider and demonstrate equalities impact in all of its activities. However, the report does not directly impact upon the public sector equality duty given it reports the activities of a committee.

Data Protection

- 4.9. This report contains no private information.

5. Alternative Options Considered

- 5.1. There are no alternative options given this report is required to comply with the Council Procedure Rules.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1. Council is invited to note the activity in advance of the inaugural Audit and Standards Committee.

7. Background papers

- 7.1. None