

GOVERNANCE, AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

25 SEPTEMBER 2017

Present: Councillor J W Handley, Chair

Councillors: E H Atherton
T P Brindley
J C Goold
S Kerry
G Marshall (substitute)
J M Owen
J C Patrick
K E Rigby

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S A Bagshaw, M J Crow, D A Elliott, R I Jackson and M Radulovic MBE.

8. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

9. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2017 were confirmed and signed.

10. **AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2016/17 AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS**

Members were informed that the Council's external auditors, KPMG, had not submitted the necessary documents and therefore a further meeting would need to be convened for their consideration.

11. **INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT**

Under the Council's Constitution and as part of the overall corporate governance arrangements the Committee noted a report informing of the work of Internal Audit.

Concern was expressed over the initial negotiating position for rents in Beeston Square. Members were informed that the Project Manager post had been appointed to, which would ensure robustness of the process. A report would be submitted to the relevant Committee in October.

12. REVIEW OF STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

Following the report to the last meeting of the Committee, and in accordance with the timescales set out in the Risk Management Strategy, the Strategic Risk Management Group met on 9 August 2017 to review the Strategic Risk Register. Members requested clarification over risks not reducing despite interventions being put in place. Officers replied that it was necessary to see if actions would work over time; furthermore, the potential lack of reductions may also be due to limitations with the 3x3 matrix. Other councils' methods of recording risk would be considered.

RESOLVED that the amendments to the Strategic Risk Register and the action plans to mitigate risks, as set out in the appendix to the report, be approved.

13. COMPLAINTS REPORT 2016/17

Members received a report summarising complaints made against the Council in 2016/17.

14. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN AND HOUSING OMBUDSMAN SERVICE ANNUAL REVIEW LETTERS

The Local Government Ombudsman's and the Housing Ombudsman Service's annual review letters to the Council were presented.

15. WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED that the Work Programme be approved.