

...Decisions... Decisions...

These notes indicate the decisions taken at this meeting and the officers responsible for taking the agreed action. For background documentation please refer to the agenda and supporting papers available on the Council's web site (www.oxfordshire.gov.uk.)

If you have a query please contact Lucy Tyrrell, Tel 07741 607824; E-mail: lucy.tyrrell@oxfordshire.gov.uk ()

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - WEDNESDAY, 22 JULY 2020

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA	DECISIONS	ACTION
1. Apologies for Absence and Temporary Appointments	Cllr Jeanette Matelot advised she will continue to attend the Committee on a temporary basis.	DLG (A Newman)
2. Declaration of Interests - see guidance note	None.	
3. Minutes To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2020 and to receive information arising from them.	The minutes of 27 May 2020 were agreed.	DLG (L Tyrrell)
4. Petitions and Public Address	None.	
5. Statement of Accounts 2019/20 Report by the Director of Finance. The Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 require the Director of Finance to publish the unaudited Statement of Accounts 2019/20 no later than 31 August 2020 and certify that they give a true and fair view of the County Council's financial position and income and expenditure for the year. This was achieved on 8 June 2020 and the unaudited accounts were published on the Council's website. The amended Regulations require the Statement of Accounts to be considered by a committee of the Council by 30 November 2020 and, following that consideration, to be		

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<p>approved by resolution of that committee. This report presents the accounts to the Audit & Governance Committee for consideration and approval, with the findings of the audit available in Ernst & Young LLP's audit results reports.</p> <p>The Audit and Governance Committee is RECOMMENDED to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Consider and approve the Statement of Accounts 2019/20 at Annex 1; (b) Consider and approve the Letter of Representations 2019/20 for the Oxfordshire County Council accounts at Annex 3; (c) Consider and approve the Letter of Representations 2019/20 for the Oxfordshire Pension Fund accounts at Annex 4; (d) Agree that the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee (or Deputy Chairman in his absence), can make any further changes to the Statement of Accounts 2019/20 and letters of representation that may arise during completion of the audit. 	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>DF (H Doney)</p>
<p>6. Ernst & Young - Final Accounts Audit Progress</p> <p>Representatives from Ernst & Young will attend to present the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxfordshire County Council Draft Audit Results Report - Year ended 31 March 2020 • Oxfordshire Pension Fund 2019/20 Draft Audit Results Report 	<p>The reports were noted.</p>	<p>E&Y (A Balmer)</p>
<p>7. Treasury Management Outturn 2019/20</p>		

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<p>Report by Director of Finance.</p> <p>The report sets out the Treasury Management activity undertaken in the financial year 2019/20 in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice. The report includes Debt and Investment activity, Prudential Indicator Outturn, Investment Strategy, and interest receivable and payable for the financial year.</p> <p>The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the report, and to RECOMMEND Council to note the Council's Treasury Management Activity in 2019/20.</p>	<p>Recommendation agreed.</p>	<p>DF (T Chapple)</p>
<p>8. Annual Governance Statement</p> <p>Report by Monitoring Officer.</p> <p>This year, the coronavirus pandemic has affected both the timing and the content of the AGS. The timetable to produce the AGS was extended nationally. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting has also advised that Statements should make specific reference to implications of the coronavirus pandemic for our governance.</p> <p>Consequently, the AGS before you today sets out those implications and how the Council has addressed them. The Committee is asked to approve the AGS.</p> <p>The Audit & Governance Committee is RECOMMENDED to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20, subject to the Monitoring Officer making any necessary amendments in the light of comments made by the Committee, after consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive and the Section 151 officer.</p>	<p>Recommendation agreed.</p>	<p>DLG (G Watson)</p>
<p>9. Model Member Code of Conduct -</p>		

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<p>Consultation from the LGA</p> <p>Report by the Monitoring Officer</p> <p>This report outlines the extent of the consultation and the Council's own recent comments on member ethical governance. It also suggests how the Committee might wish to formulate comments ahead of the consultation deadline of 14 August 2020.</p> <p>The Committee is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>(a) Consider the Local Government Association's potential Model Code of Member Conduct;</p> <p>(b) Determine if the Committee wishes to respond to the national consultation on behalf of the Council; and if so</p> <p>(c) Establish a cross-party task and finish group of the Committee to reply on behalf of the Council via the Monitoring Officer; and to</p> <p>(d) Ask the Monitoring Officer to liaise with his colleagues in Oxfordshire's District Councils, and with the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils, to share any comments made in response to the consultation.</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>DLG (G Watson)</p>
<p>10. Internal Audit Charter</p> <p>Report by Director of Finance.</p> <p>This report presents the Internal Audit Charter and Internal Audit Quality Assurance Programme for 2020/21. These are subject to annual review.</p> <p>The committee is RECOMMENDED to:</p> <p>a) Approve the Internal Audit Charter.</p> <p>b) Note the Quality Assurance and</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed.</p>	<p>DF (S Cox)</p>

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<i>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AGENDA</i>	<i>DECISIONS</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<i>Improvement Programme.</i>		
<p>11. Internal Audit Update and 20/21 Plan</p> <p>Report by Director of Finance.</p> <p>This report presents an Internal Audit update, including Internal Audit Plan for 2020/21.</p> <p><i>The committee is RECOMMENDED to comment and note the Internal Audit Plan for 2020/21.</i></p>	Recommendation agreed.	DF (S Cox)
<p>12. Audit Working Group Report</p> <p>Report by Director of Finance.</p> <p>This report presents the matters considered by the Audit Working Group Meeting of 24 June 2020.</p> <p><i>The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the report.</i></p>	Recommendation agreed.	DF (S Cox)
<p>13. Work Programme</p> <p>To review the Committee's work programme.</p>	The following changes were agreed: 16 September – add Carillion Update 11 November – add Provision Cycle 11 November – add Financial Management Code	