

### **Audit and Governance Committee**

Members of the public are welcome to attend and listen to the discussion of items in the "open" part of the meeting. Please see notes at end of agenda concerning public rights to speak and ask questions.



The Audit and Governance Committee meets in the Court Room of the Town Hall which is located on the ground floor. Entrance is via the main door or access ramp at the front of the Town Hall. Parking bays for blue badge holders are available in front of the Town Hall and in the car park at the rear of the Town Hall.



An induction loop operates to enhance sound for deaf people who use a hearing aid or loop listener.

If you require further information or assistance please contact the Local Democracy team – contact details at end of this agenda.

This agenda and accompanying reports are published on the Council's website in PDF format which means you can use the "read out loud" facility of Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Please ask if you would like this agenda and/or any of the reports in an alternative format.

**MEMBERS:** 

Councillor Ungar (Chairman); Councillor Mattock (Deputy-Chairman); Councillors Belsey, Cooke, Harris, Heaps, Taylor and Tester

# **Agenda**

- 1 Minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2013 Previously circulated.
- 2 Apologies for absence.
- Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) by members as required under Section 31 of the Localism Act and of other interests as required by the Code of Conduct (please see note at end of agenda).
- 4 Questions by members of the public.

On matters not already included on the agenda and for which prior written notice has been given (total time allowed 15 minutes).

#### 5 Urgent items of business.

The Chairman to notify the Committee of any items of urgent business to be added to the agenda.

#### 6 Right to address the meeting/order of business.

The Chairman to report any requests received to address the Committee from a member of the public or from a Councillor in respect of an item listed below and to invite the Committee to consider taking such items at the commencement of the meeting.

### 7 **Update - Members' and Standards.** (Pages 1 - 4)

Report of Monitoring Officer.

## **8** Update - The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) and related legislation. (Pages 5 - 6)

Report of Monitoring Officer.

## **9** Council Tax and Business Rates Collection and Enforcement Policy. (Pages 7 - 30)

Report of Revenues & Benefits Manager.

#### **10** Annual Audit Letter **2012/13**. (Pages 31 - 38)

Report of External Auditors BDO.

### 11 Internal Audit Report to 30th September 2013. (Pages 39 - 56)

Report of Internal Audit Manager.

### **12** Treasury Management Mid-year Review. (Pages 57 - 70)

Report of Chief Finance Officer.

**Inspection of Background Papers** – Please see contact details listed in each report.

**Councillor Right of Address** - Councillors wishing to address the meeting who are not members of the Committee must notify the Chairman in advance.

**Public Right of Address** – Requests by members of the public to speak on a matter which is listed in this agenda must be **received** in writing by no later than 12 Noon, 2 working days before the meeting e.g. if the meeting is on a Tuesday, received by 12

Noon on the preceding Friday). The request should be made to Local Democracy at the address listed below. The request may be made by letter, fax or e-mail. For further details on the rules about speaking at meetings please contact Local Democracy.

**Disclosure of interests -** Members should declare their interest in a matter at the beginning of the meeting, and again, at the point at which that agenda item is introduced.

Members must declare the existence and nature of any interest.

In the case of a DPI, if the interest is not registered (nor the subject of a pending notification) details of the nature of the interest must be reported to the meeting by the member and subsequently notified in writing to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

If a member has a DPI or other prejudicial interest he/she must leave the room when the matter is being considered (unless he/she has obtained a dispensation). If a member has a DPI he/she may not make representations first.

### **Further Information**

Councillor contact details, committee membership lists and other related information is also available from Local Democracy.

Local Democracy, 1 Grove Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4TW

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