

Agenda for a meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee to be held on Thursday, 26 January 2023 at 10.30 am in Committee Room 1 - City Hall, Bradford

Members of the Committee – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
Tait Thornton Godwin	Felstead	Griffiths

Alternates:

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
M Slater Azam Cunningham	Pollard	Sunderland

Notes:

- This agenda can be made available in Braille, large print or tape format on request by contacting the Agenda contact shown below.
- The taking of photographs, filming and sound recording of the meeting is allowed except if Councillors vote to exclude the public to discuss confidential matters covered by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Recording activity should be respectful to the conduct of the meeting and behaviour that disrupts the meeting (such as oral commentary) will not be permitted. Anyone attending the meeting who wishes to record or film the meeting's proceedings is advised to liaise with the Agenda Contact who will provide guidance and ensure that any necessary arrangements are in place. Those present who are invited to make spoken contributions to the meeting should be aware that they may be filmed or sound recorded.
- If any further information is required about any item on this agenda, please contact the officer named at the foot of that agenda item.

From:

Asif Ibrahim
 Director of Legal and Governance
 Agenda Contact: Kanwal Amrez
 Phone: 07929 070 288
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A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. ALTERNATE MEMBERS (Standing Order 34)

The Director of Legal and Governance will report the names of alternate Members who are attending the meeting in place of appointed Members.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members Code of Conduct – Part 4A of the Constitution)

To receive disclosures of interests from members and co-opted members on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

Notes:

- (1) *Members must consider their interests, and act according to the following:*

Type of Interest	You must:
<i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.</i>
<i>Other Registrable Interests (Directly Related)</i> OR <i>Non-Registrable Interests (Directly Related)</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; speak on the item <u>only</u> if the public are also allowed to speak but otherwise not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.</i>
<i>Other Registrable Interests (Affects)</i> OR <i>Non-Registrable Interests (Affects)</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; remain in the meeting participate and vote <u>unless</u> the matter affects the financial interest or well-being (a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of a majority of inhabitants of the affected ward, and (b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest; in which case speak on the item <u>only</u> if the public are also allowed to speak but otherwise not do not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting</i>

unless you have a dispensation.

- (2) *Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.*
- (3) *Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*
- (4) *Officers must disclose interests in accordance with Council Standing Order 44.*

3. MINUTES

Recommended –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2022 be signed as a correct record.

(Kanwal Amrez – 07929 070 288)

4. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

(Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 3B of the Constitution)

Reports and background papers for agenda items may be inspected by contacting the person shown after each agenda item. Certain reports and background papers may be restricted.

Any request to remove the restriction on a report or background paper should be made to the relevant Strategic Director or Assistant Director whose name is shown on the front page of the report.

If that request is refused, there is a right of appeal to this meeting.

Please contact the officer shown below in advance of the meeting if you wish to appeal.

(Kanwal Amrez – 07929 070 288)

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

5. AUDIT COMPLETION REPORT 2021/22 - AUDIT OF CBMDC - PROGRESS UPDATE

1 - 20

The External Auditor will present **Document “Y”** which summarises the findings from the audit of the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council.

The report provides the Governance and Audit Committee with an update on progress in delivering the responsibilities of the external auditors. It also includes a summary of recent national reports and publications for information.

Recommended –

That the update detailed in Document “Y” be noted.

(Nicola Hallas – 07824 086 593)

6. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2021/22 - PROGRESS UPDATE

The Director of Finance and IT will provide a verbal update on progress on the Council’s 2021-22 draft Statement of Accounts.

Due to a national issue effecting infrastructure both the Statement of Accounts and the Audit Completion Report will not be brought to Governance and Audit, until March 2023. The Government has put a statutory override into place on 25th December 2022, however guidance for the application of this statutory override, is not expected until January 2023 (no date has yet been specified).

Until this guidance has been received and interpreted (from both an accounting practitioner and auditor’s perspective) the impact on the 2021-22 Statement of Accounts cannot be assessed, implemented and audited.

As such the Statement of Accounts and Audit Completion Report will not be ready for sign off by the Governance and Audit Committee, in January 2023. This is an issue which will impact the sign off dates of all Authorities with infrastructure assets, with many other Authorities still awaiting sign off of their 2020-21 Statements.

Recommended –

That the financial position of the Council’s 2021-22 Statement of Accounts be noted.

(Rachel Gledhill-Moseley – 07966 307065)

7. REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA 2000) - LEVEL OF USE (QUARTERLY REVIEW)

21 - 24

The Director of Legal and Governance will submit **Document “Z”** which provides information relating to:

- The number of authorised and approved covert surveillance operations (Nil return) undertaken by the Council’s criminal investigation teams during 2022.
- The use of the Council’s CCTV equipment by the Police/ Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) for covert surveillance.

Recommended –

That the contents of the report Document “Z” be noted.

(Linda Bailey - 07814 779 093)

8. LGO COMPLAINTS

25 - 58

The Strategic Director for Health & Wellbeing will present **Document “AA”** the report will provide details of an investigation into a complaint lodged by a Bradford resident into the service he received from Bradford Council’s Adult Care Social Service in 2019, the LGSCO undertook a detailed investigation and found fault causing injustice with recommendations made. The LGSCO have published this as a public interest report, with a request that the report is presented to a committee of elected members.

Recommended –

That Members formally receive this report and comment on its content and the response from the Council.

(Iain Macbeath - 01274 432990)

9. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT REVIEW

59 - 70

The Director of Finance and IT will submit **Document “AB”** the report reviews progress on the significant governance concerns reported in the Council’s Annual Governance Statement 2021-22.

Recommended -

That members –

- **Review the information contained in this report and the progress made in addressing the significant governance challenges.**
- **Endorse the further actions planned.**
- **Alert officers and Members to any emerging governance concerns requiring review during the 2022-23 process.**

(Mark St Romaine - 07890 418375)