

# **GOVERNANCE, AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Present: Councillor E Williamson, Chair

Councillors: R H Darby  
S Easom  
M Hannah  
E Kerry  
M Radulovic MBE  
P D Simpson  
D K Watts  
H G Khaled MBE  
J P T Parker  
I L Tyler

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Cubley, J M Owen, M Handley and D A Elliott

21 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor E Kerry declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 4 due to being Chair of the Nottinghamshire County Council Pension Board, minute 23 refers. Councillor S Easom declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8, minute 27 refers.

22 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

23 **ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER**

The Committee received an update on the annual audit position. It was noted that a clean and qualified opinion had been issued by the Council's external auditors, Mazars.

24 **INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee were informed of the recent work completed by the Council's internal audit function. It was requested that case studies of the audit system be provided to the Committee in order for a greater understanding of function to be achieved.

25 REVIEW OF STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

The Committee received an update on the Strategic Risk Register. The Committee noted that there was a need to review the Council's Corporate Governance arrangements to ensure greater transparency and links to corporate priorities.

**RESOLVED that the amendments to the Strategic Risk Register and the actions to mitigate risks as set out in appendix 2 be approved.**

26 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN AND HOUSING OMBUDSMAN SERVICE ANNUAL REVIEW LETTERS

The Committee noted the Local Government Ombudsman's annual review letter 2018/19 and the Housing Ombudsman Service annual report 2018/19.

27 REPORT OF THE INTERIM MONITORING OFFICER

The Committee noted the findings of the Local Government Ombudsman in respect of the Council's handling of a standards complaint investigation.

The Committee requested that a review be undertaken of the Council's arrangements for dealing with standards complaints.

28 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the work programme.

**RESOLVED that the Work Programme be approved, subject to the inclusion of further reports on compliance to the Corporate Strategy, Corporate Governance and a review of the Council's arrangements for dealing with standards complaints.**