

Audit and Standards Committee

The committee met on 11th November 2019.

During the course of the meeting, the business dealt with was as follows:

Members were asked to consider the revised terms of reference for the committee noting that this would now incorporate the terms for what had previously been the standards Committee. Following discussion, it was resolved that the committee recommend their approval by the full council.

The Health and Safety report for the first half year was reviewed and it was noted that the new software update would be featuring some items lost from earlier versions.

Work has recently been carried out by government relating to Ethical Standards in Public life. Caroline Elwood gave members an overview of the work done and the conclusions reached with these detailed in appendices. The draft action plan was approved and the list of Best Practice recommendations were agreed. Members were informed that a revised code of conduct will be prepared for the next meeting of the committee.

Consideration was given to the Corporate Risk Management report Q2 and it was noted that there had been no new risks identified, no risk level increases and no overdue risk reports since the Q1 report. Also, several of the risks would be removed from the next report as a result of actions taken.

The Treasury Management Report for the first half year was presented and showed that the council currently has no borrowing and investment income was slightly down compared to budget, although rates were holding up well.

Clare Potts of SOT City Council presented the Internal Audit Report for Q2. It was noted that due to additional investigatory work carried out by the team, some planned audits were being dropped. This course of action was agreed subject to the assurance that J2 was being given sufficient management scrutiny.

Next Meeting 10th February 2020.

Paul Waring (Chair)