

REGULATORY COMMITTEES CHAIR'S REPORTS

Audit and Standards Committee

The Committee met on 7th February 2022.

Andrew Smith of Grant Thornton presented their Annual Audit Letter to members and advised that the audit had gone well with steady improvements to working papers. Covid had continued to present challenges, but overall, Grant Thornton had found no serious issues. They provided four Improvement Recommendations and felt that a return to the normal levels of Internal Audit would be welcome. There were no issues relating to value for money or sustainability and was felt that generally, the Borough compared favourably with other similar councils.

Members considered the Internal Audit Update for Quarter 3 introduced by Clare Potts. It was noted that the main area of concern was around GDPR, but that this was a complex issue with which many other bodies were suffering similar problems, and that since the Audit had been carried out, many of the issues had been resolved.

The appointment of Auditors for the five year period from 23/24 was now discussed and although some members felt that the additional cost of using the PSAA was not ideal, it was generally felt it was impractical for the Council to go it alone and was likely achieve greater value for money and protection by using it again.

Craig Turner introduced the Quarter 3 Risk Management Report and it was decided that the risks for greater-depth scrutiny, for the next meeting would be Cyber risk and Data Breach. The Work Plan for the April meeting was amended to include the 2021/22 Audit Plan.

Cllr Paul Waring
Chair

Licensing and Public Protection Committee

Since the last Full Council meeting there has been one main Licensing and Public Protection Committee which was held on Tuesday, 15th of February 2022.

In this meeting it was ratified to implement the proposed charges for taxi fares for the year, tax conditionality checks and new driver license criteria was also reviewed and agreed.

There have been several sub-committees held since the last Full Council meeting and the Minutes made available to the main committee.

Cllr Simon White
Chair