



BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE AUDIT, STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2023

AT 6.00 P.M.

PARKSIDE SUITE - PARKSIDE

MEMBERS: Councillors D. J. Nicholl (Chairman), H. D. N. Rone-Clarke (Vice-Chairman), R. Bailes, S. M. Evans, D. J. A. Forsythe, D. Hopkins, B. Kumar, B. McEldowney, S. T. Nock, J. D. Stanley, D. G. Stewart and Worrall (Parish Councils' Representative)

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence and Named Substitutes**
- 2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Arrangements**

To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary interests or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests.
- 3. To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the Audit, Standards and Governance Committee meeting held on 14th September 2023 (Pages 5 - 16)**
- 4. Standards Regime - Monitoring Officer's Report (Pages 17 - 22)**
- 5. Annual Review Letter of Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (Pages 23 - 28)**
- 6. Joint Interim Auditor's Annual Report 2021-22 and 2022-23 (Pages 29 - 86)**

7. **Quarterly Risk Update** (Pages 87 - 104)
8. **Internal Audit - Progress Report** (Pages 105 - 146)
9. **Accounting Policies Report including update on Council's Statements of Accounts** (Pages 147 - 156)
10. **Equal Pay and Financial Vulnerabilities - Response to Members' Questions** (Pages 157 - 160)
11. **Risk Champion - Verbal Update Report (Councillor B. McEldowney)**
12. **Audit, Standards and Governance Committee Work Programme** (Pages 161 - 162)

Sue Hanley
Chief Executive (Interim)

Parkside
Market Street
BROMSGROVE
Worcestershire
B61 8DA

17th November 2023

If you have any queries on this Agenda please contact
Mat Sliwinski

Parkside, Market Street, Bromsgrove, B61 8DA
Tel: (01527) 64252 Ext: 3095
Email: mateusz.sliwinski@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk

GUIDANCE ON FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

Please note that this is a public meeting.

You are able to view the agenda for this meeting from the Committee Pages of the Council's website.

If you have any questions regarding the agenda or attached papers, please do not hesitate to contact the officer named above.

GUIDANCE FOR ELECTED MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDING MEETINGS IN PERSON

Meeting attendees and members of the public are encouraged not to attend a Committee if they have if they have common cold symptoms or any of the following common symptoms of Covid-19 on the day of the meeting; a high temperature, a new and continuous cough or a loss of smell and / or taste.

Notes:

Although this is a public meeting, there are circumstances when the Committee might have to move into closed session to consider exempt or confidential information. For agenda items that are exempt, the public are excluded.



INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

Access to Information

The Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 widened the rights of press and public to attend Local Authority meetings and to see certain documents. Recently the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has further broadened these rights, and limited exemptions under the 1985 Act.

- You can inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- You can inspect minutes of the Council, Cabinet and its Committees/Boards for up to six years following a meeting.
- You can have access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to six years from the date of the meeting. These are listed at the end of each report.
- An electronic register stating the names and addresses and electoral areas of all Councillors with details of the membership of all Committees etc. is available on our website.
- A reasonable number of copies of agendas and reports relating to items to be considered in public will be made available to the public attending meetings of the Council, Cabinet and its Committees/Boards.
- You have access to a list specifying those powers which the Council has delegated to its Officers indicating also the titles of the Officers concerned, as detailed in the Council's Constitution, Scheme of Delegation.

You can access the following documents:

- Meeting Agendas
- Meeting Minutes
- The Council's Constitution

at www.bromsgrove.gov.uk