Audit and Governance Committee



Date and Time

2024

10.00 am

Wednesday, 5 June

<u>Place</u>

Chamber.

RH2 8EF

Surrey County

Council, Council

Reigate, Surrey,

Woodhatch Place, 11 Cockshot Hill,

<u>Contact</u>

Amelia Christopher

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Committee Members:

Victor Lewanski (Chairman), Richard Tear (Vice-Chairman), Ayesha Azad, Helyn Clack, Stephen Cooksey, Steven McCormick and Matthew Woods (Independent Member)

If you would like a copy of this agenda or the attached papers in another format, e.g. large print or braille, or another language, please email Amelia Christopher on amelia.christopher@surreycc.gov.uk.

This meeting will be held in public at the venue mentioned above and may be webcast live. Generally the public seating areas are not filmed. However, by entering the meeting room and using the public seating area or attending online, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes. If webcast, a recording will be available on the Council's website postmeeting. The live webcast and recording can be accessed via the Council's website: <u>https://surreycc.public-i.tv/core/portal/home</u>

If you would like to attend and you have any special requirements, please email Amelia Christopher on amelia.christopher@surreycc.gov.uk. Please note that public seating is limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

To receive any apologies for absence and substitutions.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - 13 MARCH 2024

(Pages 1 - 10)

To agree the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members present are required to declare, at this point in the meeting or as soon as possible thereafter

- (i) Any disclosable pecuniary interests and / or
- (ii) Other interests arising under the Code of Conduct in respect of any item(s) of business being considered at this meeting

NOTES:

- Members are reminded that they must not participate in any item where they have a disclosable pecuniary interest
- As well as an interest of the Member, this includes any interest, of which the Member is aware, that relates to the Member's spouse or civil partner (or any person with whom the Member is living as a spouse or civil partner)
- Members with a significant personal interest may participate in the discussion and vote on that matter unless that interest could be reasonably regarded as prejudicial.

4 QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

To receive any questions or petitions.

Notes:

- 1. The deadline for Member's questions is 12.00pm four working days before the meeting (*30 May 2024*).
- 2. The deadline for public questions is seven days before the meeting (29 May 2024).
- 3. The deadline for petitions was 14 days before the meeting, and no petitions have been received.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER AND WORK PLAN

(Pages 11 - 36)

To review the Committee's recommendations tracker and work plan.

6 ANNUAL COMPLAINTS PERFORMANCE REPORT

(Pages 37 - 60)

To give the Audit & Governance Committee an overview of the nature of complaints received by the Council and complaint handling performance in 2023/24 and to demonstrate how feedback from customers has been used to improve services.

7 2023/24 TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT

This report summarises the Council's treasury management activities during 2023/24, as required, to ensure compliance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Authority to approve a treasury management annual report after the end of each financial year.

8 EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2023/24

To provide the Audit & Governance Committee with oversight of the plan for the external audit of the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts.

9 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT AND OPINION 2023-24

The purpose of this report is to give an opinion on the adequacy of Surrey County Council's control environment as a contribution to the proper, economic, efficient and effective use of resources. The report covers the audit work completed in the year from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 in accordance with the Internal Audit Strategy for 2023/24. A separate report on Counter Fraud work undertaken in 2023/24 forms part of this Committee agenda.

10	COUNTER FRAUD ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24	(Pages 181 -
	The report covers the counter fraud work completed in the year from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 in accordance with the Counter Fraud Strategy and Framework.	190)

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee will be on 10 July 2024.

Leigh Whitehouse Interim Chief Executive Published: Tuesday, 28 May 2024

(Pages 61 - 76)

(Pages 77 -

140)

(Pages 141 -

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MOBILE TECHNOLOGY AND FILMING – ACCEPTABLE USE

Members of the public and the press may use social media or mobile devices in silent mode during meetings. Public Wi-Fi is available; please ask the committee manager for details.

Anyone is permitted to film, record or take photographs at Council meetings. Please liaise with the committee manager prior to the start of the meeting so that the meeting can be made aware of any filming taking place.

The use of mobile devices, including for the purpose of recording or filming a meeting, is subject to no interruptions, distractions or interference being caused to any Council equipment or any general disturbance to proceedings. The Chairman may ask for mobile devices to be switched off in these circumstances.

Thank you for your co-operation.

QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

Cabinet and most committees will consider questions by elected Surrey County Council Members and questions and petitions from members of the public who are electors in the Surrey County Council area.

Please note the following regarding questions from the public:

- 1. Members of the public can submit one written question to a meeting by the deadline stated in the agenda. Questions should relate to general policy and not to detail. Questions are asked and answered in public and cannot relate to "confidential" or "exempt" matters (for example, personal or financial details of an individual); for further advice please contact the committee manager listed on the front page of an agenda.
- 2. The number of public questions which can be asked at a meeting may not exceed six. Questions which are received after the first six will be held over to the following meeting or dealt with in writing at the Chairman's discretion.
- 3. Questions will be taken in the order in which they are received.
- 4. Questions will be asked and answered without discussion. The Chairman or Cabinet members may decline to answer a question, provide a written reply or nominate another Member to answer the question.
- 5. Following the initial reply, one supplementary question may be asked by the questioner. The Chairman or Cabinet members may decline to answer a supplementary question.