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General Purposes & Audit Committee

Meeting of held on Thursday, 8 July 2021 at 6.30 pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Karen Jewitt (Chair);
Councillor Stephen Mann (Vice-Chair);
Councillors Nina Degrads, Paul Scott, Chris Clark, Joy Prince, Stuart Millson,
Tim Pollard, Jan Buttinger and Steve Hollands

PART A

1/21 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Due to late distribution, it was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10 June 2021 be deferred to the next meeting.

2/21 **Disclosure of Interests**

No disclosures of interest were made.

3/21 **Urgent Business (if any)**

There were no items of urgent business.

4/21 **Head of Internal Audit Report**

The Committee received a report detailing the findings of the Head of Internal Audit's Annual Report.

Simon Maddocks, Head of Internal Audit, introduced the report.
Following consideration, it was resolved that the Committee:

1. Agreed to note the Head of Internal Audit Report 2020/21 and the overall Limited level of assurance of the Council's systems of internal control.

5/21 **The Redmond Review of Local Audit**

The Committee received a report detailing the findings of the Redmond Review.

Simon Maddocks, Head of Internal Audit, introduced the report.

The following matters were raised by the Committee:

- a) Future of service: It was noted that the Committee had made positive change with regards to how it approached Governance issues
- b) Further progress: Following a question from a Member, the Officer confirmed that the National Audit Office had been asked to look at codes they had sent. The findings of these would be incorporated in the 2021 Audit. It was noted that consistent conversations were being had to ensure ongoing progress.

Following consideration, it was resolved that the Committee:

1. Agreed to note the outcomes of the Redmond review.

6/21 **Brick by Brick Report**

The Committee received a verbal introduction from a representative of the Council's Internal Auditor, Grant Thornton, highlighting that the Committee had asked for the audit findings report from the external auditor of Brick by Brick and this was not Grant Thornton and therefore this was not for Grant Thornton to provide.

7/21 **Audit Findings Report**

The Committee received a verbal update from a representative of the Council's Internal Auditor Grant Thornton, highlighting that:

- The Audit Team had recently recommenced work with the Finance Team
- It was predicted that the Audit Findings report could be drafted once numbers had been ascertained, potentially towards the end of the month;
- The draft report would go to Members once it was ready, and a meeting date would be secured with the Committee Chair.

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The meeting ended at 8.18 pm

Signed:

Date:

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