

AUDIT COMMITTEE – 23 AUGUST 2016

Audit Committee

Tuesday 23 August 2016 at 3pm

Present: Provost Moran, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brennan, Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, McColgan (for Dorrian), Jones, Loughran, MacLeod, Nelson and Rebecchi.

Chair: Councillor Rebecchi presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Head of Legal & Property Services, Ms G Murphy and Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Chief Financial Officer, Chief Internal Auditor, Head of Education and Corporate Procurement Manager.

Also in attendance: Mr M Thomas (Grant Thornton).

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

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| 443 | Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest | 443 |
| | An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Dorrian, with Councillor McColgan substituting. | |
| | No declarations of interest were intimated. | |
| 444 | External Audit Action Plans – Current Actions | 444 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the status of current actions from the External Audit action plans as at 30 June 2016. | |
| | Decided: that the Committee note the progress to date in relation to the implementation of External Audit actions. | |
| 445 | Internal Audit Progress Report – 4 April to 29 July 2016 | 445 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources appending the monitoring report in respect of Internal Audit activity for the period 4 April to 29 July 2016. | |
| | Decided: that the Committee note the progress made by Internal Audit in the period from 4 April to 29 July 2016. | |
| 446 | Internal Audit Annual Report and Assurance Statement 2015/2016 | 446 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources appending the Internal Audit Annual Report and Assurance Statement for 2015/2016 which forms part of the Council's Annual Governance Statement. | |
| | Decided: that the Committee approve the Internal Audit Annual Report and Assurance Statement. | |

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- 447 Annual Review of Risk Management Activity 2015/2016 447**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on progress made in 2015/2016 in developing and monitoring a strategic approach to managing risks faced by the Council as part of the overall Corporate Governance Framework.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the progress made in 2015/2016 in developing, implementing and monitoring a coherent corporate approach to managing risks faced by the Council.
- 448 Financial Regulations 448**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer appending the revised Financial Regulations for consideration prior to approval by the Inverclyde Council.
- Decided:** that the Committee approve the revised Financial Regulations appended to the report and that these be submitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval.
- 449 Review of Standing Orders Relating to Contracts 449**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services appending the revised Standing Orders relating to Contracts for consideration prior to approval by the Inverclyde Council.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee agree the revisions to the Standard Orders relating to Contracts as set out in the Appendix to the report and that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to make any minor amendments as are considered necessary;
 - (2) that the revised Standing Orders relating to Contracts be submitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval;
 - (3) that prior to the meeting of the Inverclyde Council, arrangements be made for an All Members' Briefing on the revisions proposed; and
 - (4) that a report be submitted to the Environment & Regeneration Committee on the ways in which the revised Standing Orders relating to Contracts can be used to enhance the process of engagement with SMEs in Inverclyde, the report to include input from the local business community through the Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Small Businesses.
- It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**
- 450 Internal Audit Progress Report – Appendix 450**
- There was submitted an appendix to the Internal Audit Progress Report providing details of a special investigation undertaken since the last meeting of the Committee. (Councillors Brennan and Ahlfeld left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
- Decided:** that the appendix be noted.