



WELWYN HATFIELD

Please note that by law this meeting can be filmed, audio-recorded, photographed or reported electronically by the use of social media by anyone attending. This does not apply to any part of the meeting that is held in private session.

Please ask for:
Suzanne Hulks

14 July 2017

Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend a meeting of the WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AUDIT Committee to be held on Monday 24 July 2017 at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, The Campus, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL8 6AE

Yours faithfully

Executive Director
Public Protection, Planning and Governance

AGENDA PART 1

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN:

To note that Councillor N.Pace was appointed Chairman of the Committee at the Annual Council meeting until such time as his successor is appointed.

2. SUBSTITUTION OF MEMBERS:

To note any substitution of Committee members made in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 19-22.

3. APOLOGIES:

4. MINUTES:

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2017 (previously circulated).

5. ACTIONS UPDATE:

To note that there is nothing to report on the status of actions agreed at the last Committee meeting.

6. NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER ITEM 15 AND ANY ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM THE AGENDA:

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS:

To note declarations of Members' disclosable pecuniary interests, non-disclosable pecuniary interests and non-pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND PETITIONS:

Up to fifteen minutes will be available for questions from members of the public on issues relating to the work of the Committee and to receive any petitions.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT: (Pages 5 - 14)

Report of the Executive Director (Public Protection, Planning and Governance) bringing to Members' attention the current strategic risks facing the Council, as determined by the Executive Board.

10. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT – REPORT: (Pages 15 - 40)

Report of the Chief Executive which presents the draft Annual Governance Statement.

Members are requested to consider the Annual Governance Statement, authorise the Chief Executive in conjunction with the Leader of the Council to make any subsequent amendments following consideration by the Audit Committee and then to recommend its certification by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive.

11. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT: (Pages 41 - 54)

Report of the Shared Internal Audit Service which provides an update on the progress in delivering the Annual Audit Plan for 2017-2018 as at 3 July 2017.

12. SHARED INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE HEAD OF ASSURANCE OPINION: (Pages 55 - 78)

Report of the Shared Internal Audit Service which provides the results of the self-assessment required by the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) and the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme (QAIP).

13. AUDIT RESULTS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017: (Pages 79 - 118)

Report of Ernst & Young LLP which summarises the findings from the 2016/2017 audit, also includes messages arising from their audit of the Council's financial statements and the results of the work they have undertaken to assess their arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.

14. 2016-2017 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS: (Pages 119 - 218)

Report of the Executive Director (Resources, Environment and Cultural Services) presenting the Statement of Accounts for approval.

15. SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR, IS OF SUFFICIENT URGENCY TO WARRANT IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:

16. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC:

The Committee is asked to resolve:

That under Section 100(A) (2) and (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting for item 17 (if any) on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A (3) and Part I of Schedule 12A of the said Act as amended.

In resolving to exclude the public in respect of the exempt information, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

PART II

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN EXEMPT NATURE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR:

<u>Circulation:</u>	Councillors	N.Pace (Chairman)	H.Quenet
		J.Boulton	S.Roberts
		H.Bower	K.Thorpe
		G.Michaelides	

Executive Board
Press and Public (except Part II Items)

If you require any further information about this Agenda please contact Suzanne Hulks, Governance Service Unit on 01707 357467 or email - democracy@welhat.gov.uk