
Meeting	Audit & Governance Committee
Date	30 April 2018
Present	Councillors Derbyshire (Chair), Lisle, Shepherd, Cuthbertson, Fenton, Steward and D Taylor (Substitute for Councillor Kramm) Mr Mann and Mr Mendus (Independent Members)
Apologies	Councillor Kramm

65. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests which they may have in respect of business on the agenda. None were declared.

66. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meetings held on 7 February and 11 April be approved and then signed by the Chair as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:

7 February 2018:

49. In response to a member question it was explained that, like many other local authorities, CYC employed an external audit a *treasury management* provider.

50. ~~Veritau~~ *Mazars* officers were in attendance to present the report and to respond to queries.

The auditor explained that a change to reporting deadlines would lead to an increase in incomplete audits reported in ~~quarterly~~ *interim* reports but members were reassured that audits would still be conducted to time.

53. It was explained that work was being ~~doing~~ done to complete one comprehensive spreadsheet of all the Council's corporate and commercial premises, and to ensure appropriate surveys were completed of all properties.

67. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been five registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Councillor Mark Warters, a Member of the Council, spoke on his concerns at the delay in publishing the report into the conduct of the Audit & Governance Committee on 22 February 2017. He also raised further concerns in relation to historic procurement issues.

Mr Laverack, a resident, spoke about a lack of transparency and his concerns that Freedom of Information requests are not dealt with and that residents have been blocked on social media.

Mr Hammill, a resident, also spoke on transparency issues. He stated that residents should have a right to question the Council and urged the Committee to deal with these issues.

Mr Fisher, a resident, spoke in relation to Members' right of access to information. He suggested that Members should have the right to access any information held by the Council of which they are a Member, although they may be asked to sign a confidentiality agreement. He also stated that they should receive all necessary papers within the usual statutory deadline of 5 working days ahead of the meeting.

Ms Swinburn, a resident, spoke on her concerns that Members had yet to receive the unredacted report into the conduct of the Audit & Governance committee on 22 February 2017. She felt this showed a lack of trust between Officers and Members. Finally, she stated that this was a report written by a consultant and, as such, she felt it should not be titled an 'LGA report'.

68. Exclusion of Press and Public

Members expressed their disappointment that they had not yet received an unredacted version of the report (Annex A to Agenda Item 5). They stated they did not believe it was acceptable, or appropriate, for them to be asked to consider the full list of recommendations, or to make further recommendations, without having had advance sight of the report.

It was also suggested by Members that this report should be renamed ahead of the next meeting, as they did not consider this an LGA report.

Resolved: That Item 5 (minute Item 69) be deferred to a future meeting of the Audit & Governance committee, with the unredacted report being shared with Members of the Committee no less than 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Reason: To allow Members to fully consider the report and the recommendations ahead of discussing the item in private session.

69. Observations and Learning From The LGA Review Into the Conduct of the Audit and Governance Committee on 22nd February 2017

This item was deferred to a future meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee (date TBC). See minute item 68.

Councillor Derbyshire, Chair
[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 5.55 pm].