

Notice of meeting of

Audit & Governance Committee

To:	Councillors Pierce (Chair), Brooks (Vice-Chair), Crisp, Scott, Kirk, Moore and R Watson
Date:	Wednesday, 24 September 2008
Time:	5.30 pm
Venue:	The Guildhall, York

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda.

2. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider the exclusion of the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following:

Annexes 1 & 2 to Agenda Item 9 (Annual Monitoring Report: Breaches and Waivers of Financial Regulations 2007/08) on the grounds that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). This information is classed as exempt under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as revised by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

3. Minutes (Pages 3 - 8)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Audit & Governance Committee held on 26 June 2008.

4. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Panel's remit can do so. Anyone who wishes to register or requires further information is requested to contact the Democracy Officer on the contact details listed at the foot of this agenda. The deadline for registering is **Tuesday, 23 September 2008, at 5:00 pm.**

5. Annual Governance Report of the External Auditor (Pages 9 - 36)

This report presents the Annual Governance Report of the External Auditor in respect of the 2007/08 audit year, for members' consideration.

6. Debt Recovery Arrangements Follow-up Review: Audit Commission Report (Pages 37 - 48)

This paper introduces a report prepared by the Audit Commission summarising the findings from their follow-up review of the Council's debt recovery arrangements with specific reference to Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR).

7. Sickness Absence (Pages 49 - 52)

This report provides an update on the Council's controls relating to sickness absence, as requested at the meeting on 13 May 2008.

8. Follow Up of Internal Audit Recommendations (Pages 53 - 58)

This report sets out the progress made by departments in implementing those agreed audit recommendations which were due to have been implemented by 31 August 2008.

9. Annual Monitoring Report: Breaches and Waivers of Financial Regulations 2007/08 (Pages 59 - 76)

This report informs Members about unauthorised breaches of the Council's Financial Regulations during the 2007/08 financial year and any waivers of Financial Regulations approved by the Section 151 Officer during the year.

10. Risk Management Mid-term Report 2008/09 (Pages 77 - 108)

This report informs Members of the progress made by the Risk Management Section during 2008/09, including achievements in relation to embedding the Risk Management framework across the organisation.

11. Application of Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) (Pages 109 - 114)

This report proposes a response to a letter from the Chairman of the Local Government Association following media comment on councils' application of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA).

12. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details are set out above.