

## Audit Committee – 15 March 2022

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Minutes of the meeting of the **Audit Committee** held on **15 March 2022** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr Mrs L A Butcher

Cllr Mrs T L Carter  
Cllr J N Gooding  
Cllr T D Knight

Cllr J L Lawmon  
Cllr R Milne  
Cllr G W Myers  
Cllr Mrs L Shaw

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs R R Dray, Mrs E P Gadsdon and P J Shaw.

### **SUBSTITUTES**

Cllr M R Carter  
Cllr M J Webb  
Cllr A L Williams

- for Cllr P J Shaw  
- for Cllr Mrs E P Gadsdon  
- for Cllr R R Dray

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

N Lucas  
M Porter  
J Kevany  
W Szyszka

- Assistant Director, Resources  
- Chief Audit Executive  
- Principal Auditor  
- Democratic Services Officer

### **52 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **53 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN 2022/23**

Members considered the report of the Assistant Director, Resources providing details of the proposed 2022/23 Audit Plan for Members' consideration and approval.

The Assistant Director provided Members with an explanation of the need for and the structure of proposed future audit provision arrangements with Basildon Borough Council. In response to a Member query, officers confirmed that the current Chief Audit Executive would continue to carry out annual audits for Rochford District Council (RDC).

A Member queried risks marked as 'Adequate' on page 6.6 of the report and whether these could be improved. Officers advised that the Appendix set out all the corporate risk areas and officers had to make a decision on areas to be audited based on emerging issues, service requirements and prior audit work, within available resources. The query related to areas where no planned work

was intended for 2022/23, as a result of recent audit activity in those areas assessed as Good or Adequate. It was further advised that 'Adequate' meant that there were controls in place that suggest there may be areas for improvement, but overall, the controls gave no cause for concern. The next level up from 'Adequate' was 'Good'. All audits referred to had been considered by the Committee previously when Members would have seen the details of the recommendations associated with the risks identified.

### **Resolved**

That the proposed Audit Plan and Charter for 2022/23 be approved. (ADR)

(This was unanimously agreed.)

### **54 AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2021/22**

Members considered the report of the Assistant Director, Resources providing an update on the work of the Internal Audit team in relation to progress made against the annual audit plan and action taken by service departments in implementing audit recommendations.

### **Resolved**

- (1) That the update on delivering the 2021/22 Audit Plan be noted.
- (2) That the conclusions and results from the completed audit engagements in Appendices 2 be noted.
- (3) That the updated status of audit recommendations in Appendix 3 be noted. (ADR)

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....

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