

Meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee

**Wednesday 23rd June, 2021 at 6.00pm
in the Council Chamber, Council House,
Priory Road, Dudley.**

Agenda - Public Session (Meeting open to the public and press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To report the appointment of any substitute members serving for this meeting of the Committee.
3. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct.
4. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 21st April, 2021 as a correct record.
5. Re-appointment of the Standards Sub-Committee – (Pages 1-2)
6. Whistleblowing Policy – (Pages 3-22)
7. Corporate Risks Report – (Pages 23-56)
8. Audit Services Annual Performance Report 2020/2021 – (Pages 57-89)
9. Committee Work Plan 2021/2022 – (Pages 90-93)
10. To consider any questions from Members to the Chair where two clear days' notice has been given to the Monitoring Officer (Council Procedure Rule 11.8).



Chief Executive

Dated: 15th June, 2021

Distribution:

Members of the Audit and Standards Committee:

Councillor A Taylor (Chair)

Councillor J Roberts (Vice-Chair)

Councillors S Ali, P Atkins, D Borley, J Cowell, P Dobb, M Evans, B Gentle

Please note the following concerning meetings at Dudley Council House:

Covid-19 Secure Working

Hands

- Hand sanitiser and antibacterial wipes are available at various locations in the Council House. Please ensure you sanitise your hands when arriving and leaving the building. Hand washing facilities are also available on site.

Face

- All persons entering or working in the Council House must wear face masks when moving around the building. Please remember to bring and use your own face masks. Face masks may be safely removed when you are seated in the meeting.

Space

- Seating in the meeting rooms is arranged to allow for safe distancing. You must only use the designated seating. Remember to maintain safe distancing at all times during your visit.
- Seating in the public gallery is currently restricted and will be allocated on a 'first come' basis.
- All persons must observe the signage in place throughout the Council House to ensure safety.

If you are unwell

- Do not attend the Council House if you feel unwell; if you have tested positive for Covid-19; if you are self-isolating or if you suspect that you are symptomatic.
- You are advised to undertake a lateral flow test 48 hours before attending. If the test is positive, do not attend the meeting.

Toilets

- Toilet facilities are available on site and are subject to the Covid-19 secure measures that are in place. All the toilets have hand washing facilities.

No smoking

- There is no smoking on the Council House premises in line with national legislation. It is an offence to smoke in or on the premises. You cannot use e-cigarettes and/or similar vaping devices.

In Case of Emergency

- In the event of the alarms sounding, please leave the building by the nearest exit. There are Officers who will assist you in the event of this happening, please follow their instructions.

Submitting Apologies for Absence

- Elected Members can submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (see our contact details below). Members wishing to appoint a substitute should notify Democratic Services as soon as possible in advance of the meeting. Any substitute Members must be eligible to serve on the meeting in question (for example, he/she must have received the training required by the Council).

Private and Confidential Information

- Any agendas containing reports with 'exempt' information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that information containing private and personal data is kept safe and secure at all times. Confidential papers should be handed to Democratic Services for secure disposal. If you choose to retain the documents you should ensure that the information is securely stored and destroyed within six months.

General

- Public Wi-Fi is available in the Council House.
- The use of mobile devices or electronic facilities is permitted for the purposes of recording/reporting during the public session of the meeting. The use of any such devices must not disrupt the meeting – Please turn off any ringtones or set your devices to silent.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website www.dudley.gov.uk

If you need advice or assistance



- If you (or anyone you know) requires assistance to access the venue, or if you have any other queries, please contact Democratic Services - Telephone 01384 815238 or E-mail Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk