

Meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee

**Thursday, 30th June, 2022 at 6.00pm
in Committee Room 3, 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 meetings held on 14th April, 2022 and 9th June, 2022 as correct records.
5. Grant Thornton Auditor's Annual Report (Pages 1-48)
6. Whistleblowing Policy (Pages 49-68)
7. Audit Services Annual Performance Report 2021/2022 (Pages 69-92)
8. Committee Work Plan 2022/2023 (Pages 93-95)
9. 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: 22nd June, 2022

Distribution:

Members of the Audit and Standards Committee:

Councillor A Lees (Chair)

Councillor D Borley (Vice-Chair)

Councillors S Ali, P Atkins, J Cowell, M Evans, E Lawrence, J Martin and A Taylor

Please note the following concerning meetings at Dudley Council House:

Health and Safety

- Windows/doors will be opened to provide adequate ventilation.
- Please ensure you sanitise your hands when arriving and leaving the building. Hand washing facilities are also available on site.
- All persons entering or working in the Council House are encouraged to wear face masks in communal areas and when moving around the building.
- Face masks may be removed when you are participating in the meeting.
- All people attending are encouraged to undertake Lateral Flow Tests twice a week. Anyone testing positive should not attend and should seek further advice.
- Do not attend 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.
- All people are encouraged to be vaccinated to limit any potential ill-health effects.
- Please be respectful of everyone's personal space and preferences when you attend meetings.

Toilets

- Toilet facilities are available on site and are subject to safety 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.

Recording and Reporting

- 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.

General

- Public Wi-Fi is available in the Council House.
- 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