



Meeting **GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Date **Wednesday 23 June 2021 (commencing at 10.30 am)**

membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Philip Owen (Chairman)
Nigel Moxon (Vice-Chairman)

Richard Butler
Steve Carr
Neil Clarke MBE
John Cottee
Errol Henry JP **A**

Michael Payne
Helen-Ann Smith
Roger Upton
Elizabeth Williamson

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Councillor Pauline Allan for Councillor Errol Henry JP

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Sara Allmond	}	Chief Executive's Department
Glen Bicknell		
Rob Disney		
Jo Kirkby		
Simon Lacey		
Nigel Stevenson		
Marjorie Toward		

Ainsley Macdonnell Adult Social Care and Health Department

OTHER ATTENDEES

Ian Bayne	Independent Person
Craig Cole	Independent Person
Rob White	Independent Person
John Gregory	Grant Thornton

1. CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED 2021/020

That the appointment by Full Council on 27 May 2021 of Councillor Philip Owen as Chairman and Councillor Nigel Moxon as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the 2021-22 municipal year be noted.

2. MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED 2021/021

That the membership of the Committee for the 2021-22 municipal year be noted as follows:

Councillors Philip Owen, Nigel Moxon, Richard Butler, Steve Carr, Neil Clarke MBE, John Cottee, Errol Henry JP, Michael Payne, Helen-Ann Smith, Roger Upton and Elizabeth Williamson.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 31 March 2021, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from:

- Councillor Errol Henry JP (other reasons)

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None

6. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN (LGSCO) DECISIONS – MARCH TO MAY 2021

Jo Kirkby, Team Manager, Complaints and Information introduced the report which informed Members of the latest complaint decisions by the LGSCO. Ainsley Macdonnell, Service Director, Community Services – Living Well responded to questions on the decisions.

RESOLVED: 2021/022

The committee agreed to receive a summary of no fault found decisions in future reports and continue to receive full decisions where fault was found.

7. CONSTITUTION REVIEW WORKING GROUP

The Committee considered a report establishing a member working group to review the Council's Constitution, as directed by Full Council.

RESOLVED: 2021/023

- 1) To approve the establishment of a Constitution Review Working Group, with the membership as set out in paragraph 4 of the report.
- 2) To receive a report from the working group on its proposed changes to the Constitution to be made by Full Council once the review is complete.

8. GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

The Committee considered the report to be presented to Full Council which set out the work of the committee over the previous year.

RESOLVED: 2021/024

That the Committee agreed the contents of the report and referred it to Full Council for its consideration.

9. LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT – 2020/21

The Committee considered a report which reviewed the Local Code of Corporate Governance for Nottinghamshire County Council and sought approval for the proposed Annual Governance Statement 2020/21.

RESOLVED: 2021/025

- 1) That Committee approves the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21, with no changes required.
- 2) That the Committee approves that any changes required to the Annual Governance Statement prior to its final publication in September 2021 may be agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

10. ASSURANCE MAPPING ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

The committee considered a report which set out the outcomes from the assurance mapping work carried out during 2020-21 and proposed an approach for 2021-22.

RESOLVED: 2021/026

- 1) That the assurance mapping process be retained in 2021/22.
- 2) That the scope of the assurance map for 2021/22 be consolidated to focus on the existing eight assurance areas.
- 3) That progress against proposed actions to address the issues identified be reported to Committee as part of the quarterly update reports on the Annual Governance Statement.
- 4) That no additional actions are required.

11. HEAD OF INTERNAL AUDIT'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020/21

The Committee considered a report which set out the Head of Internal Audit's Annual Report for 2020/21 and his opinion on the adequacy of the County Council's arrangements for governance, risk management and control.

Members requested that future reports include an executive summary highlighting the key points from the report.

RESOLVED: 2021/027

That the action set out above be agreed.

12. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2020/21 – ACCOUNTING POLICES

The Committee considered a report which set out the proposed accounting policies used in creating the Authority's Statement of Accounts for 2020/21.

A presentation on the accounting policies would be given at a future meeting.

RESOLVED: 2021/028

That the proposed changes to the Authority's accounting policies be approved.

13. INFORMING THE AUDIT RISK ASSESSMENT – 2020-21 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Committee considered a report which set out the External Auditors' requirement for the provision of information regarding the Council's approach to dealing with fraud, litigation, laws and regulations as part of their audit of the County Council's accounts for 2020/21.

RESOLVED: 2021/029

That no further actions were required.

14. GRANT THORNTON – EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2020/21

The Committee considered a report which set out the External Auditors' Audit Plan for their 2020/21 Audit.

RESOLVED: 2021/030

That no further actions were required.

15. WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED: 2021/031

That the work programme be agreed.

The meeting closed at 11.32 am.

CHAIRMAN