



Meeting **GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Date **Wednesday 19 July 2023 (commencing at 10.30am)**

membership

COUNCILLORS

Philip Owen (Chairman)
Johno Lee (Vice-Chairman)

Richard Butler
Samantha Deakin - **Apologies**
Errol Henry JP
Andy Meakin
Michael Payne - **Apologies**

Sue Saddington - **Apologies**
Helen-Ann Smith
Nigel Turner
Roger Upton

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Councillor Steve Carr substituting for Councillor Samantha Deakin
Councillor Chris Barnfather substituting for Councillor Mrs Sue Saddington
Councillor Jim Creamer substituting for Councillor Michael Payne

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Shelagh Mitchell - Children and Families
Glen Bicknell - Chief Executives
Heather Dickinson
Richard Elston
Andrew Howarth
Kate Morris
Marjorie Toward
Nigel Stevenson
Angela Wendels
Martin Carnaffin - Place

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Zak Francis - Grant Thornton, External Auditor
Andrew Smith

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 14 June 2023, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Councillor Samantha Deakin (Other Reasons)
- Councillor Michael Payne (Medical Reasons)
- Councillor Mrs Sue Saddington (Medical)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

None.

4. UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN DECISIONS (MAY TO JUNE 2023)

The report set out information about two complaints against the Council where fault was found by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions of officers and seek assurance about actions put in place from the relevant departments regarding those complaints.

Members sought and received assurance that communication style would be reviewed by Via, ensuring standard information was delivered in a sensitive manner.

Members also sought and received assurance that no confidential information was disclosed to third parties in the second case to be considered.

RESOLVED: 2023/32

That members note the findings of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and welcome the lessons learned and actions taken to the findings.

5. EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2022-23

The report and appendix outlined the Plan for the external audit of Nottinghamshire County Council and the Nottinghamshire Pensions fund for 2022/23 and set limits for materiality. External Auditors highlighted that the timeframes were extended compared to previous years due to sector wide pressures.

RESOLVED: 2023/33

That Members to note the External Auditor's Audit Plan for 2022/23

6. ANNUAL FRAUD REPORT 2022-23

RESOLVED: 2023/33

That the Committee notes the content of the Annual Fraud Report 2022/23

7. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS TERM 3 2022-23 AND TERM 2 PLAN 2023-24

RESOLVED: 2023/34

That the Committee notes the outcome of the Internal Audit work carried out in Term 3 – 2022/23 and the planned coverage of Internal Audit's work in Term 2 of 2023/24 be progressed to help deliver assurance to the Committee in priority areas

8. WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED: 2023/31

That the work programme be agreed.

The meeting closed at 11:19am

CHAIRMAN