

**Council – 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024**

**Recommendation from  
Audit and Procurement  
Committee 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Audit and Procurement Committee held at 2.30pm on**  
**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**

Present:

Members: Councillor R Lakha (Chair)  
Councillor B Singh (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor M Ali  
Councillor J Blundell  
Councillor A Hopkins  
Councillor A Jobbar  
Councillor P Male  
Councillor B Singh

Employees  
(by service area):

Finance and Resources B Hastie (Director of Finance and Resources), T Pinks,  
K Tyler

Law and Governance M Salmon

Apologies: There were no apologies

**Public Business**

**12. Declarations of Interest**

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**15. Audit and Procurement Committee Annual Report to Council 2023/24**

The Audit and Procurement Committee considered their Annual Report to Council that provided an overview of its activity during 2023/2024. The report would be submitted to the City Council at their meeting on 3rd September 2024.

The report included an introduction by the Chair, Councillor R Lakha, and indicated that the Audit and Procurement Committee was a key component of the Council's governance framework, supporting good governance and strong public financial management. Over the last year, the Committee had continued to discharge its key responsibility effectively, namely providing independent assurance on the adequacy of the risk management framework, the internal control environment and the integrity of the Council's financial reporting and governance processes. The report demonstrated the vital role carried out by the Committee and the contribution that it made to the Council's overall governance arrangements.

The Committee received a range of routine reports based on the clearly defined expectations of services / functions that reported to it, e.g. internal / external audit and financial management. It also received ad-hoc reports which focussed on either a specific concern or developments that impacted directly on the Committee.

The report detailed the Committee's activity in 2023/24 in the following areas: Governance; Financial Management and Accounting; External Audit; Internal Audit; Fraud and Error; and Procurement. Reports considered during this period which were linked to risk management, internal control and governance, included: Whistleblowing Annual Report 2022/23; Complaints to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman 2022/23; Corporate Risk Register; Information Governance Annual Report 2022/23; and Coventry Municipal Holdings Group Accounts.

The report also detailed priorities for the Committee for 2024/25 which included:

- The Council's risk management, governance, internal control and financial management arrangements continue to operate effectively, especially in light of the financial pressures caused by inflation, increasing service demands and difficult conditions within social care markets.
- Matters relating to the publication of the Council's Statements of Accounts were resolved as soon as practicable, with an objective that outstanding years accounts were published in line with the expectations of the Governments consultation once the outcome of that was known.

The Committee agreed to recommend that Council consider the Annual Report for 2023/2024 at their meeting on 3rd September 2024.

**RESOLVED that the Audit and Procurement Committee recommends that Council considers the Audit and Procurement Committee Annual Report 2023/2024 at their meeting on 3rd September 2024.**