A meeting of the CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE will be held in CIVIC SUITE 0.1A, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON, PE29 3TN on WEDNESDAY, 23 JANUARY 2019 at 7:00 PM and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

Contact (01480)

#### **APOLOGIES**

### **1. MINUTES** (Pages 5 - 10)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10th October 2018.

Democratic Services 388169

#### 2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members declarations as to disclosable pecuniary and other interests in relation to any Agenda Item.

3. CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS - UPDATE (Pages 11 - 14)

To provide a summary and update of completed or ongoing complaints received regarding alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct under the Localism Act 2011 since the start of the year.

L Jablonska 388004

# 4. UPDATE ON CODE OF CONDUCT AND REGISTER OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (Pages 15 - 22)

To consider a report by the Elections and Democratic Services Manager on the Code of Conduct and the Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. T Batha 388924

### 5. **EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2018/19** (Pages 23 - 66)

To consider a report by the Head of Resources on the External Audit Plan for 2018/19.

P Loveday / C Mason 388605 / 388157

# 6. PROGRESS ON ISSUES ARISING FROM THE 2017/18 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (Pages 67 - 76)

To receive a report by the Internal Audit and Risk Manager on progress on introducing the key improvement areas contained in the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement.

D Harwood 388115

# **7. INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN QUARTER 4 - 2018/19** (Pages 77 - 86)

To consider and approve the Internal Audit Plan 2018/19 for quarter four.

D Harwood 388115

8. ANNUAL REPORT ON HDC COMPLIANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) & ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS (EIR) ACTS (FOR THE PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 2017 - 31 DECEMBER 2018) (Pages 87 - 100)

To consider a report on requests for information received by the Council under the Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations Acts and to highlight any issues encountered and actions to be taken to improve performance.

J Brooks 388850

9. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT (Pages 101 - 102)

To receive the Corporate Governance Committee Progress Report.

H Peacey 388007

Dated this 16 day of January 2019

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Head of Paid Service

#### **Notes**

### 1. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- (1) Members are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests and unless you have obtained dispensation, cannot discuss or vote on the matter at the meeting and must also leave the room whilst the matter is being debated or voted on.
- (2) A Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest if it -
  - (a) relates to you, or
  - (b) is an interest of -
    - (i) your spouse or civil partner; or
    - (ii) a person with whom you are living as husband and wife; or
    - (iii) a person with whom you are living as if you were civil partners

and you are aware that the other person has the interest.

- (3) Disclosable pecuniary interests includes -
  - (a) any employment or profession carried out for profit or gain;
  - (b) any financial benefit received by the Member in respect of expenses incurred carrying out his or her duties as a Member (except from the Council);
  - (c) any current contracts with the Council;
  - (d) any beneficial interest in land/property within the Council's area;
  - (e) any licence for a month or longer to occupy land in the Council's area;
  - (f) any tenancy where the Council is landlord and the Member (or person in (2)(b) above) has a beneficial interest; or
  - (g) a beneficial interest (above the specified level) in the shares of any body which has a place of business or land in the Council's area.

### Non-Statutory Disclosable Interests

- (4) If a Member has a non-statutory disclosable interest then you are required to declare that interest, but may remain to discuss and vote providing you do not breach the overall Nolan principles.
- (5) A Member has a non-statutory disclosable interest where -
  - (a) a decision in relation to the business being considered might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing of you or a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the council tax payers, rate payers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the authority's administrative area, or
  - (b) it relates to or is likely to affect a disclosable pecuniary interest, but in respect of a member of your family (other than specified in (2)(b) above) or a person with whom you have a close association, or
  - (c) it relates to or is likely to affect any body -
    - (i) exercising functions of a public nature; or
    - (ii) directed to charitable purposes; or
    - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a Member or in a position of control or management.

and that interest is not a disclosable pecuniary interest.

### 2. Filming, Photography and Recording at Council Meetings

The District Council supports the principles of openness and transparency in its decision making and permits filming, recording and the taking of photographs at its meetings that are open to the public. It also welcomes the use of social networking and micro-blogging websites (such as Twitter and Facebook) to communicate with people about what is happening at meetings. Arrangements for these activities should operate in accordance with guidelines agreed by the Council and available via the following link filming,photography-and-recording-at-council-meetings.pdf or on request from the Democratic Services Team. The Council understands that some members of the public attending its meetings may not wish to be filmed. The Chairman of the meeting will facilitate this preference by ensuring that any such request not to be recorded is respected.

Please contact Habbiba Peacey, Democratic Services, Tel: 01480 388169 / email: Habbiba.Peacey@huntingdonshire.gov.uk if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Committee.

Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.

Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the District Council's website – www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk (under Councils and Democracy).

If you would like a translation of Agenda/Minutes/Reports or would like a large text version or an audio version please contact the Elections & Democratic Services Manager and we will try to accommodate your needs.

### Emergency Procedure

In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit