

**To: All Members of the Audit Committee
(and any other Members who may wish to attend)**



Clerk to the Authority

Tel: 0151 296 4000
Extn: 4113 Kelly Kellaway

Your ref:

Our ref HP/DM

Date: 27th May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **AUDIT COMMITTEE** to be held at **1.00 pm** on **THURSDAY, 4TH JUNE, 2020**. This meeting will be held remotely, via Zoom.

To view the proceedings of this meeting, please click on the link below:

<https://youtu.be/ADDXksZ-ULQ>

Yours faithfully,



Clerk to the Authority

Encl.

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MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

AUDIT COMMITTEE

4 JUNE 2020

AGENDA

Members

Cllr Del Arnall
Cllr Janet Grace
Cllr Andrew Makinson
Cllr Linda Maloney (Chair)
Cllr Lisa Preston
Anthony Boyle, Independent Person

1. Preliminary Matters

Members are requested to consider the identification of:

- a) declarations of interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the Agenda
- b) any additional items of business which the Chair has determined should be considered as matters of urgency; and
- c) items of business which may require the exclusion of the press and public during consideration thereof because of the possibility of the disclosure of exempt information.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 8)

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Audit Committee, held on 13th February 2020, are submitted for approval as a correct record and for signature by the Chair.

3. EXEMPT Minutes - 18th March 2020

The Minutes of the additional meeting of the Audit Committee, held on 18th March 2020, are submitted for approval and signature by the Chair.

These Minutes contain EXEMPT information, by virtue of Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

4. External Audit Plan 2019-20 (Pages 9 - 28)

To consider the attached report from the Authority's External Auditors – Grant Thornton, concerning the External Audit Plan 2019-20.

5. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2019/20 ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 29 - 40)

To consider Report CFO/025/20 of the Treasurer, concerning the activities of the Treasury Management operation and actual performance against the agreed Prudential Indicators in 2019/20. This report meets the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities. The Authority is required to comply with both Codes through Regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003.

6. **2019/20 ANNUAL YEAR-END INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT** (Pages 41 - 54)

To consider Report CFO/027/20 of the Treasurer, concerning the Annual Year End Internal Audit report for 2019/20.

7. **2020/21 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN** (Pages 55 - 60)

To consider Report CFO/024/20 of the Treasurer, concerning the proposed Internal Audit plan for 2020/21 and to seek comments from Members on the plan.

8. **THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2019/2020** (Pages 61 - 76)

To consider Report CFO/026/20 of the Treasurer, concerning the Authority's Annual Governance Statement. This statement fulfils the Authority's statutory requirement to prepare a statement of internal control in accordance with proper practices, and to present an annual review of the effectiveness of the current system.

If any Members have queries, comments or require additional information relating to any item on the agenda please contact Committee Services and we will endeavour to provide the information you require for the meeting. Of course this does not affect the right of any Member to raise questions in the meeting itself but it may assist Members in their consideration of an item if additional information is available.

Refreshments

Any Members attending on Authority business straight from work or for long periods of time, and require a sandwich, please contact Democratic Services, prior to your arrival, for arrangements to be made.