

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



**R. Groves  
Acting Monitoring Officer**

Tel: 0151 296 4000  
Extn: 4230 Gemma Sung

Your ref:

Our ref GS/RG

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **AUDIT COMMITTEE** to be held at **1.00pm** on **THURSDAY, 3RD JUNE, 2021** in the Liverpool Suite - Fire Service Headquarters.

There are 10 socially distanced available seats in the Liverpool Suite for the public to attend the meeting. These seats are available on a first come first serve basis, so please contact [DemocraticServices@merseyfire.gov.uk](mailto:DemocraticServices@merseyfire.gov.uk) with your details if you require one.

The meeting will be available to watch via YouTube on the following link:

[https://youtu.be/kGJ0bGg4B\\_A](https://youtu.be/kGJ0bGg4B_A)

If there are any technical issues with the live stream, the recording of the meeting will be uploaded to Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service's YouTube page after the meeting has ended.

Yours faithfully,

PP – G. Sung

Acting Monitoring Officer

Encl.

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**MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**3 JUNE 2021**

**AGENDA**

**Members**

Anthony Boyle, Independent Person  
Janet Grace  
Edna Finneran  
Linda Maloney (Chair)  
Lisa Preston  
Allan Brame

**1. Preliminary Matters**

The Authority is 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, held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021, are submitted for approval as a correct record and for signature by the Chair.

**3. Audit Plan 2020/21 (Pages 9 - 30)**

To consider the attached report from the Authority's External Auditors – Grant Thornton, concerning the External Audit Plan 2020-21.

**4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2020/21 ANNUAL REPORT (Pages 31 - 42)**

To consider Report CFO/024/21 of the Director of Finance, concerning the activities of the Treasury Management operation and actual performance against the agreed Prudential Indicators in 2020/21. 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.

5. **2020/21 ANNUAL YEAR-END INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT** (Pages 43 - 56)

To consider Report CFO/027/21 of the Director of Finance, concerning the Annual Year End Internal Audit report for 2020/21.

6. **THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020/2021** (Pages 57 - 72)

To consider Report CFO/025/21 of the Director of Finance, 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.

7. **2021/22 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN** (Pages 73 - 78)

To consider Report CFO/026/21 of the Director of Finance, concerning the proposed Internal Audit plan for 2021/22 and to seek comments from Members on the plan.

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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.