

## **AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Malcolm (Chair); Councillors Ali Ahmed, Sultan Ali, Gartside, Hussain, Rashid, and Donna Williams

**OFFICERS:** J. Murphy (Chief Finance Officer), S. Smith (Deputy Chief Finance Officer), I .Corbridge (Head of Internal Audit), M. Nixon (Risk and Insurance Manager) and A. James (Resources Directorate)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** J. Sanderson (Independent Member); C. Ainsworth (Independent Person); K. Murray (Mazars) and S. Knowles

#### **14 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Martin and Councillor Nickson.

#### **15 MINUTES**

Resolved:

1. That the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### **16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **17 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items of business.

#### **18 INTERNAL AUDIT QUARTER 1 REPORT 2020/21**

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Internal Audit that summarised the work of the Internal Audit team during the first quarter of 2020/21.

Internal Audit was able to provide either substantial or adequate assurance over the effectiveness of risk management in all the audits completed during the period.

This report was presented to enable the Audit and Governance Committee, in accordance with their work programme and overall responsibility for governance, to scrutinise Internal Audit coverage during the first quarter of 2020/21 on all Services within the Council. The work of RBC Internal Audit is governed by the UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

Resolved:

1. That the Internal Audit Quarter 1 Report 2020/21 be noted.

**19 RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT - Q1 2020/21**

The Committee considered the report of the Risk and Insurance Manager which provided a summary of Risk Management and Insurance work during Quarter 1 of the 2020/21 year.

Reviews of the corporate risk registers managed by both the Council and the Heywood Middleton and Rochdale Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) had been carried out to reflect the changing environment while responding to the Covid-19 pandemic. Updates were provided on the impacts to Council risks and the additional governance structures utilised during the crisis.

The report was presented to enable the Audit and Governance Committee, in accordance with their work programme and oversight of governance, to scrutinise Risk Management and Insurance Team coverage during the 2020/21 year for all Council Services.

Resolved:

1. That the Risk Management Progress Report – Quarter 1 2020/21 be noted.

**20 IAN CORBRIDGE**

The Chair, Councillor Malcolm and members of the Committee noted that this would be the last meeting attended by Ian Corbridge, Head of Internal Audit, prior to his retirement.

The Committee thanked Ian for his service to the Council and in particular his professional advice, support and guidance to the Audit and Governance Committee and wished him a long and happy retirement.

The Committee also welcomed Shaun Knowles who was in attendance at the meeting and would be taking up the position of Head of Internal Audit.