

Audit & Governance Committee Agenda



To: Dr. Olu Olasode (Independent Chair)
Councillor Matt Griffiths (Vice-Chair)
Councillors Claire Bonham, Simon Brew, Sherwan Chowdhury,
Patricia Hay-Justice and Endri Llabuti

Reserve Members: Councillors Sean Fitzsimons, Simon Fox, Mark Johnson,
Enid Mollyneaux and Stella Nabukeera

A meeting of the **Audit & Governance Committee** which you are hereby invited to attend, will be held **Thursday, 7 July 2022 at 6.30 pm. Council Chamber, Town Hall, Katherine Street, Croydon, CR0 1NX.**

Katherine Kerswell
Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service
London Borough of Croydon
Bernard Weatherill House
8 Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA

Marianna Ritchie, Democratic Services
marianna.ritchie@croydon.gov.uk
www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting.

If you would like to record the meeting, we ask that you read the guidance on the recording of public meetings [here](#) before attending.

The agenda papers for all Council meetings are available on the Council website www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings

If you require any assistance, please contact Marianna Ritchie, Democratic Services as detailed above

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence from any members of the Committee.

2. **Disclosure of Interests**

Members and co-opted Members of the Council are reminded that, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and the statutory provisions of the Localism Act, they are required to consider **in advance of each meeting** whether they have a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI), another registrable interest (ORI) or a non-registrable interest (NRI) in relation to any matter on the agenda. If advice is needed, Members should contact the Monitoring Officer **in good time before the meeting**.

If any Member or co-opted Member of the Council identifies a DPI or ORI which they have not already registered on the Council's register of interests or which requires updating, they should complete the disclosure form which can be obtained from Democratic Services at any time, copies of which will be available at the meeting for return to the Monitoring Officer.

Members and co-opted Members are required to disclose any DPIs and ORIs at the meeting.

- Where the matter relates to a DPI they may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not stay in the meeting unless granted a dispensation.
- Where the matter relates to an ORI they may not vote on the matter unless granted a dispensation.
- Where a Member or co-opted Member has an NRI which directly relates to their financial interest or wellbeing, or that of a relative or close associate, they must disclose the interest at the meeting, may not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not stay in the meeting unless granted a dispensation. Where a matter affects the NRI of a Member or co-opted Member, section 9 of Appendix B of the Code of Conduct sets out the test which must be applied by the Member to decide whether disclosure is required.

The Chair will invite Members to make their disclosure orally at the

commencement of Agenda item 3, to be recorded in the minutes.

3. Urgent Business (if any)

To receive notice of any business not on the agenda which in the opinion of the Chair, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

4. Work Programme and Action Tracker 2022-23 (Pages 7 - 16)

The Committee is asked to consider any additions, amendments or changes to the agreed work programme for 2022-23.

5. Progress update on Council's Year End Final Accounts (Pages 17 - 26)

The report provides Audit and Governance Committee with an update on progress on completing the Council's 3 Statutory Year End Accounts which relates to years 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22.

The Council has published Year End Accounts for 2019/20 and 2020/21 and is currently working through 2021/22.

A presentation by the Council's independent accountant, Grant Thornton, will take place following this report.

6. Ombudsman Report - Children's Services (Pages 27 - 46)

The Committee is asked to consider the public interest report dated 6 December 2021 and the recommendations made by the Local Government & Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) in relation to Croydon Council, and agree the recommendations and next steps.

7. Audit Charter, Strategy and Plan (Pages 47 - 64)

The Audit and Governance Committee is asked to approve the Internal Audit Charter (Appendix 1), Strategy (Appendix 2) and the plan of audit work for 2022/23 (Appendix 3).

8. Recruitment and Appointment of Independent Member to the Audit and Governance Committee (Pages 65 - 70)

The report provides information on the process for the recruitment and appointment of an independent member for the Audit and Governance Committee.

9. Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 - update on Action Plan
(Pages 71 - 84)

The report provides an update on the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2020/21 Action Plan.