

# Audit & Governance Committee Agenda



To: Olu Olasode (Independent Chair)  
Councillor Matt Griffiths (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors Claire Bonham, Simon Brew, Endri Llabuti, Enid Mollyneaux,  
Nikhil Sherine Thampi and Sean Fitzsimons

Reserve Members: Kola Agboola, Alisa Flemming, Simon Fox,  
Mark Johnson, Stella Nabukeera and Helen Redfern

A meeting of the **Audit & Governance Committee** which you are hereby invited to attend, will be held **Thursday, 20 July 2023 at 6.30 pm. 1.01 & 1.02, 1st Floor, Bernard Weatherill House.**

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

Hannah Cretney, Democratic Services  
[hannah.cretney2@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:hannah.cretney2@croydon.gov.uk)  
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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](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings)

If you require any assistance, please contact Hannah Cretney, 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 are invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) they may have in relation to any item(s) of business on today's agenda.

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 7 - 14)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2023 as an accurate record of the proceedings.

**4. Audit and Governance Committee Action Log 2022-23 (Pages 15 - 18)**

To review the Audit and Governance Committee Action Log.

**5. 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.

**6. Update from the Chair of the Scrutiny & Overview Committee (Pages 19 - 52)**

Both the Audit and Scrutiny functions of the Croydon Council have their respective roles to play in the ongoing improvement journey of the Council and in holding decision makers to account. To ensure that the benefit of any such work is maximised, it is important to ensure that both functions work together and that there is clarity on the remits of the Scrutiny and Audit Committees respectively. To help facilitate this working relationship, the Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee, Councillor Rowenna Davis, has been invited to provide a short update to the Audit and Governance Committee on the work of Scrutiny.

The Audit and Governance Committee is asked to:

1. Note the update provided by the Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee.
2. Note the guidance from the Centre for Governance & Scrutiny – Audit Committees and Scrutiny Committees: Working Together.

**7. Financial Accounts 2019-20 (Pages 53 - 212)**

This report presents the amended 2019-20 unaudited Statement of Accounts, and explains the key changes made to them since their publication on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

For the reasons set out in the report, Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to:

Note the updated 2019-20 unaudited Statement of Accounts attached as Appendix 1.

**8. 2018/19 Energy Recharges Recommendation Progress Report (Pages 213 - 216)**

This report gives an update on the response to the recommendations in the 2018/19 Energy Recharges Internal Audit Report carried out by Mazars in June 2019.

The Audit and Governance Committee is asked to:

Note the actions taken to date to address the recommendations of the 2018/19 Energy Recharges Internal Audit Report carried out by Mazars in June 2019.

**9. External Audit Fees Update 2019-20 (Pages 217 - 222)**

This report presents an update on the proposed audit fees by the Council's auditor in relation to the 2019-20 Council audit.

For the reasons set out in the report, the Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to:

Note the proposed increased audit costs of £220,750 in relation to 2019-20, which would take Council audit fees to £597,352 for the year.

**10. Independent Member Recruitment (Pages 223 - 230)**

This report identifies the recommended candidate to be appointed as an independent co-opted non-voting Member on the Audit and Governance Committee.

The Audit and Governance Committee is asked to:

1. Support the recommendation of the recruitment panel for the preferred candidate David Clarke to be appointed as an independent co-opted non-voting member of the Committee; and
2. Recommend to Full Council that David Clarke be appointed as an independent co-opted non-voting member of the Audit and Governance Committee for a period of 4 years and that said appointment be subject to standards of conduct which encompass the Nolan Principles.

**11. Audit and Governance Committee Draft Annual Report 2022-23 (Pages 231 - 242)**

The Committee is to receive a report, which highlights the work of the Committee over the last year. It also includes a brief forward look into the year ahead on the Committee's work and developments.

The Audit and Governance Committee is asked to;

Review and approve for this report to be presented to Full Council.

**12. Audit and Governance Committee Work Programme 2023-24 (Pages 243 - 248)**

The report sets out the future work programme for the Audit and Governance Committee for noting, consideration and comment.

The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to:

Note, consider and comment on the work programme as detailed in this report.