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# NOTICE OF MEETING

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## GOVERNANCE & AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

**FRIDAY, 11 MARCH 2016 AT 2.30 PM**

**CONFERENCE ROOM A, FLOOR 2, CIVIC OFFICES, PORTSMOUTH**

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### **Membership**

Councillor Simon Boshier (Chair)

Councillor Ian Lyon (Vice-Chair)

Councillor John Ferrett

Councillor Steve Hastings

Councillor Hugh Mason

Councillor Phil Smith

### **Standing Deputies**

Councillor Ryan Brent

Councillor Scott Harris

Councillor Lynne Stagg

Councillor David Tompkins

Councillor Matthew Winnington

Councillor Rob Wood

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(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the minutes of this meeting.)

Please note that the agenda, minutes and non-exempt reports are available to view online on the Portsmouth City Council website: [www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)

**Deputations by members of the public may be made on any item where a decision is going to be taken. The request should be made in writing to the contact officer (above) by 12 noon of the working day before the meeting, and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendation/s). Email requests are accepted.**

### **AGENDA**

**1 Apologies for Absence**

**2 Declarations of Members' Interests**

**3 Governance and Audit and Standards Committee Minutes - 29 January 2016 (Pages 1 - 12)**

**RECOMMENDED** that the minutes of the Governance and Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 29 January 2016 be confirmed and signed by the chair as a correct record.

**4 Updates on actions identified in the minutes.**

To include a response to key questions for the Audit Committee mentioned in the External Auditors update at the last meeting.

**5 Briefing from External Audit - Ernst & Young (Pages 13 - 42)**

Verbal update from the External Auditor (including LG sector update) and on the External Audit Report year ending 31 March 2016.

**6 Audit Performance Status Report to 9 February 2016 (and two appendices - A and B) (Pages 43 - 58)**

The report by the Chief Internal Auditor is to update the Governance and Audit and Standards Committee on the Internal Audit Performance for 2015/16 to 9th February 2016 against the Annual Audit Plan, highlight areas of concern and areas where assurance can be given on the internal control framework.

**RECOMMENDED**

- (1) That Members note the Audit Performance for 2015/16 to 9th February 2016 ;**
- (2) That Members note the highlighted areas of control weakness for the 2015/16 Audit Plan.**

**7 Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2016/17 (Pages 59 - 124)**

The purpose of the report by the Director of Finance and Information Services Officer (Section 151 Officer) is to obtain the Council's approval for 2016/17 to the Treasury Management Policy Statement (attached) which includes:

- Annual Minimum Revenue Provision for Debt Repayment Statement
- Annual Investment Strategy

This comes to the Governance & Audit & Standards Committee for information purposes.

**8 Performance Management update - Q3, 2015-16 (Pages 125 - 236)**

Purpose - To report significant performance issues, arising from Q3 performance monitoring, to Governance and Audit and Standards committee and highlight areas for further action or analysis.

**RECOMMENDED that the Governance and Audit and Standards Committee**

- 1) note the report;**
- 2) note the overall improvement in quality of reports , and the commentary from the Deputy Chief Executive at section 6**
- 3) comment on the performance issues highlighted in section 4, and governance issues in section 5, including agreeing if any further action is required**
- 4) Agree the actions proposed in section 4.**

**9 Proposed change to Standing Order 32 (as submitted by Councillor Swan)**

To propose a change to standing orders so that the decision on the admissibility of lawful motions rests with the Lord Mayor and that consequently the paragraph after standing order 32 b i and ii be revised to read as follows (changes in bold)

In the event that there is any dispute in relation to a proposed notice of motion **(and the proposer and seconder do not accept the Monitoring Officer's ruling on it, either with or without proposed modification, and there is no lawful impediment prohibiting it from proceeding)** the matter shall be referred to the Lord Mayor (or Deputy Lord Mayor in the absence of the Lord Mayor) who shall decide whether it may be presented to Council having first discussed it with the proposer and or seconder and separately consulted with the Monitoring Officer.

**In the event that the Monitoring Officer rules that there is a lawful impediment to the motion proceeding to Council, the motion shall subject, to the Monitoring Officer consulting with the Lord Mayor or deputy in the Lord Mayor's absence, not proceed**

Note - No change to standing order 32 e relating to application of the 6 month rule is sought.

**10 Member Training - Presentation**

Liz Aplin, Operational Training Manager, will give a presentation to the committee.

**11 Update on the council's compliance with its Equality Duty and Equality Impact Assessment Process (Pages 237 - 248)**

The purpose of the report is to update members of the committee on the compliance of Council services with the Equality Duty and the Equality Impact Assessment process since the last report dated 7 November 2014.

**RECOMMENDED**

- (1) That Members of the Committee note the report;**
- (2) That Members of the Committee consider whether any further action is required by them.**

**Information**

Members of the public are now permitted to use both audio visual recording devices and social media during this meeting, on the understanding that it neither disrupts the meeting or records those stating explicitly that they do not wish to be recorded. Guidance on the use of devices at meetings open to the public is available on the Council's website and posters on the wall of the meeting's venue.