



East Suffolk House, Riduna Park, Station Road,
Melton, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 1RT

Audit and Governance Committee

Members:

Councillor Geoff Lynch (Chairman)
Councillor Edward Back (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Judy Cloke
Councillor Tony Cooper
Councillor Linda Coulam
Councillor Tess Gandy
Councillor Chris Mapey
Councillor Rachel Smith-Lyte
Councillor Ed Thompson

Members are invited to a **Meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee**
to be held in the Deben Conference Room, East Suffolk House, Melton,
on **Monday, 18 November 2019 at 6:30 pm**

An Agenda is set out below.

Part One – Open to the Public

Pages

1 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

2 Declarations of Interest

Members and Officers are invited to make any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Local Non-Pecuniary Interests that they may have in relation to items on the Agenda and are also reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the Meeting if it becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is considered.

3 Minutes

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting held on 29 July 2019

1 - 9

4 Update on Return Rate for Register of Interests

Members will recall Report ES/0087 which was presented to the Committee on 29 July 2019. The report was an up-date on standards and declarations of interests, and included a section, at paragraph 5, about the return rate for Register of Interests forms from our town and parish councillors.

Under s29 of the Localism Act 2011 (the Act), the Monitoring Officer (MO) of a relevant Authority must establish and maintain a Register of Interests of Members and co-opted Members of the Authority. The Register of Interests for Members across Suffolk requires them to declare, in Part 1 of the form, certain DPIs. DPIs are prescribed in the Local Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) (England) Regulations which were made in 2012. Also, in Part 2 of the form, to declare LNPIs which are required by the Suffolk Code of Conduct. These are such things as membership of outside bodies, charities and groups established to influence policy etc.

In the case of a parish council, the MO must ensure that a copy of the parish council's register is available for inspection at a place in the district council's area at all reasonable hours, and secure that the register is published on the district council's website. A parish council must, if it has a website, secure that its register is published on its website.

Under s30(1) of the Act, all Members have 28 days from the day of taking office in which to notify the MO of any DPIs and to complete a register of interests form. Members elected on 2 May 2019 had until midnight on 3 June in which to complete their register form. Under s34 of the Act, it is a criminal offence if a Member, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with the requirement in s30(1) to notify the MO of their DPIs.

In July this year, we had 1052 Councillors on town and parish councillors in the East Suffolk district area. Out of the 1052, 928 had returned their register of interest forms. 124 had not. This represented a return rate of 88% and a non-return rate of 12%.

Currently, we have 1077 Councillors on town and parish councillors in the East Suffolk district area. The number varies according to resignations, elections and co-options throughout the four year period of any administration. Out of the 1077, 1061 have returned their register of interest forms. 16 have not. This represented a return rate of 99% and a non-return rate of 1%.

As Members of the Committee were interested in these figures, they are asked to NOTE the contents of this agenda item, for their information.

5 Treasury Management Outturn Report for 2018/19 & Mid Year Report for 2019/20 ES/0142 **10 - 24**

Report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources, and the Assistant Cabinet Member for Resources

6 Internal Audit: Revised Internal Audit Plan 2019-20 ES/0191 **25 - 30**

Report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources

7	Internal Audit Reports Recently Issued ES/0192	31 - 40
	Report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources	
8	Audit and Governance Committee's Forward Work Programme	
	To consider the Committee's Forward Work Programme	
9	Exempt/Confidential Items	
	It is recommended that under Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.	

Part Two – Exempt/Confidential

Pages

10	Exempt Minutes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
11	Internal Audit: Status of Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Close



Stephen Baker, Chief Executive

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