

# Swindon Borough Council

## Audit Committee

**Tuesday, 23 February 2016**

Committee Room 6, Civic Offices

**At 6.00 p.m.**

### **Conservative Councillors**

Steve Weisinger  
(Chair)  
Oliver Donachie  
Mark Edwards  
Nick Martin  
Maureen Penny

### **Labour Councillors**

Steve Allsopp  
Des Moffatt  
Kevin Small

**Committee Officer:** Steve Jones (01793 463602)

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**Access Arrangements** - The venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you have any special requirements to enable you to attend the meeting or would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size, please contact the Committee Officer as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

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## **AGENDA**

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

Members are requested at the start of the meeting to declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and are reminded that any such interest should also be declared at the start of an item or during any discussion of the matter concerned.

### **3. Public Question Time**

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance).

### **4. Minutes (Pages 5 - 8)**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015

### **5. Corporate Risk Management Update HPP&E (Pages 9 - 14)**

### **6. Internal Audit report - Brindley Close (Lessons Learnt) HIA (Pages 15 - 44)**

7. **Internal Audit report - Licensing HIA** (Pages 45 - 54)
8. **External Audit Reports** (Pages 55 - 76)
  - I. Certification Report 2014/15
  - II. Audit Committee Update
9. **Public Sector Internal Audit Standards - External Assessment HIA** (Pages 77 - 84)
10. **Head of Internal Audit Update HIA** (Pages 85 - 100)

**Date of Despatch:** 15 February 2016

**Key:**

**Officers:**

HIA - Head of Internal Audit  
 HPP&E - Head of People, Performance and Engagement

**Public Question Time** - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Director of Law and Democratic Services, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website.

(<http://www5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

**The Audit Committee - Terms of Reference**

*(the complete terms of reference and programme of activity for the Audit Committee are set out in Minute 10 of the meeting of the Audit Sub-Committee held on 16 June 2015)*

- Be satisfied that the authority's assurance statements, including the Annual Governance Statement, properly reflect the risk environment and any actions required to improve it, and demonstrate how governance supports the achievement of the authority's objectives.
- In relation to the authority's internal audit functions:
  - Oversee its independence, objectivity, performance and professionalism
  - Support the effectiveness of the internal audit process
  - Promote the effective use of internal audit within the assurance framework
- Consider the effectiveness of the control environment, including arrangements for ensuring value for money and for managing the authority's exposure to the

risk of fraud and corruption.

- Consider the reports and recommendations of external audit and inspection agencies and their implications for governance, risk management or control.
- Support effective relationships between external audit and internal audit, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies, and encourage the active promotion of the value of the audit process.
- Review the financial statements, external auditor's opinion and reports to Members, and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.
- Reviewing and monitoring treasury management arrangements in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.