

Date: 10 April 2019



District Council

Town Hall, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 7QF

Tel: 01768 817817

Email: cttee.admin@eden.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Accounts and Governance Committee Agenda - 18 April 2019

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Accounts and Governance Committee will be held at 6.45 pm on Thursday, 18 April 2019 at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Penrith.

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

To sign the public minutes AGc/46/02/19 to AGc/67/02/19 of the meeting of this Committee held on 21 February 2019 as a correct record of those proceedings (copies previously circulated).

3 Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of the existence and nature of any private interests, both disclosable pecuniary and any other registrable interests, in any matter to be considered or being considered.

4 External Audit Reports (Pages 5 - 38)

To consider report F21/19 from the Director of Finance which is attached and which seeks to set out one report from the Council's External Auditor, Grant Thornton.

RECOMMENDATION that the report of the External Auditor is noted.

5 Universal Credit update

To consider a verbal update from the Head of Revenue and Benefits on the impact of effects the introduction of Universal Credit is having on Eden District Council, as agreed at minute number AGc/50/02/19 (21 February 2019).

6 Annual Governance Statement (Pages 39 - 72)

To consider report F28/19 of the Director of Corporate Services which is attached and which seeks to set out the detail supporting the Council's Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and Local Code of Governance (Local Code). Members are asked to confirm that the AGS and Local Code fairly reflects the corporate governance

arrangements in place at the Council.

RECOMMENDATION that the Accounts and Governance Committee propose any further amendments and endorse the AGS, Local Code and Action Plan.

7 Local Government Ethical Standards *(Pages 73 - 82)*

To consider report G37/19 from the Director of Corporate Services which is attached and which seeks to request that the Accounts and Governance Committee note the report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life and considers any actions arising to feed into future work programming.

RECOMMENDATIONS that:

- (1) the Accounts and Governance Committee notes the report; and
- (2) the Accounts and Governance Committee notes that the Monitoring Officer will consider the list of best practice recommendations, and will discuss with the Cumbrian Monitoring Officers and CALC any potential revisions to the existing code of conduct and/or guidance for a further report back to Committee.

8 Response to External Review of the Accounts and Governance Committee *(Pages 83 - 86)*

To consider report F26/19 from the Director of Corporate Services which is attached and which seeks to respond to the recommendations of an external review of the Accounts and Governance Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS that:

1. The Committee agrees to perform a self-assessment on an annual basis from 2019/20 onwards and reports this to Council.
2. The Committee is provided with enhanced regular training and supporting materials.
3. Consideration is given to subscribing to CIPFA's Better Governance Forum.

9 Member Induction and Training programme 2019/2020

To consider a verbal update from the Assistant Director Governance on the Member Training timetable for 2019/202, as agreed at minute number AGc/66/02/19 (21 February 2019).

10 Any Other Items Which the Chairman Decides are Urgent

11 Date of Next Scheduled Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of this Committee will be confirmed at Annual Council on 16 May 2019.

Yours faithfully



R Rouse
Chief Executive

Democratic Services Contact: Vivien Little

Encs

For Attention

All members of the Council

Chairman – Councillor A Connell (Liberal Democrat Group)

Vice Chairman – Councillor K Greenwood (Independent Group)

Councillors

P Godwin, Independent Group
A Hogg, Conservative Group
S Jackson, Conservative Group
V Kendall, Conservative Group

J C Lynch, Conservative Group
R Orchard, Conservative Group
V Taylor, Liberal Democrat Group

Standing Deputies

G Nicolson OBE, Conservative Group
J Raine, Conservative Group
M Robinson, Independent Group

M Rudhall, Liberal Democrat Group
J Tompkins, Liberal Democrat Group
M Tonkin, Independent Group

Please Note:

1. **Access to the internet in the Council Chamber and Committee room is available via the guest wi-fi – no password is required**
2. **Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 this meeting has been advertised as a public meeting (unless stated otherwise) and as such could be filmed or recorded by the media or members of the public**