

A MEETING of the AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, NEWTOWN ST BOSWELLS on MONDAY, 16 JANUARY 2017 at 10.15 am

As previously agreed, there will be a meeting of Members of the Committee at 9.30 a.m. prior to the main meeting. The primary focus of the informal session will be to carry out the annual self-assessments of Compliance with the Good Practice Principles Checklist and Evaluation of Effectiveness Toolkit from the CIPFA Audit Committees Guidance.

J. J. WILKINSON,
Clerk to the Council,
10 January 2017

BUSINESS		
1.	Apologies for Absence.	
2.	Order of Business.	
3.	Declarations of Interest.	
4.	Minute. (Pages 1 - 6) Minute of Meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 14 November 2016 to be approved and signed by the Chairman. (Copy attached.)	4 mins
5.	Risk Management in Services. Presentation by Service Director Assets and Infrastructure on the strategic risks facing the service and the internal controls and governance in place to manage / mitigate those risks to demonstrate how risk management is embedded within services. (Verbal presentation.)	30 mins
6.	Benefits Performance Audit Update 2015/16. (Pages 7 - 20) Consider report by the Accounts Commission published in June 2016 which provides a summary of the performance audit work carried out by Audit Scotland on Scottish Councils' housing benefit services during 2015/16. (Copy attached)	15 mins
7.	Housing Benefits Overpayment and Debt Recovery. Verbal update by Service Director Neighbourhood Services on Housing	5 mins

	Benefits overpayment and debt recovery information.	
8.	Local Government in Scotland - Financial Overview 2015/16. (Pages 21 - 56) Consider report by the Accounts Commission published in November 2016 which provides an outline of the overall financial health of local government and the significant challenges for local government finance that lie ahead. (Copy attached.)	15 mins
9.	Treasury Management Strategy 2017/18. (Pages 57 - 102) Consider report by Chief Financial Officer on the Council's draft report and Treasury Management Strategy 2017/18 for review and scrutiny prior to presentation for Council approval. (Copy attached.)	30 mins
10.	Internal Audit Work 2016/17 to December 2016. (Pages 103 - 118) Consider a report by Chief Officer Audit & Risk on findings from recent work carried out by Internal Audit, including the recommended audit actions agreed by Management to improve internal controls and governance arrangements, and Internal Audit work currently in progress. (Copy attached)	15 mins
11.	Any Other Items Previously Circulated.	
12.	Any Other Items which the Chairman Decides are Urgent.	

NOTES

1. **Timings given above are only indicative and not intended to inhibit Members' discussions.**
2. **Members are reminded that, if they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in any item of business coming before the meeting, that interest should be declared prior to commencement of discussion on that item. Such declaration will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.**

Membership of Committee:- Councillors M. Ballantyne (Chair), B White (Vice-Chairman), J. Campbell, I. Gillespie, A. J. Nicol, S. Scott and Mr. M. Middlemiss.

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