

A MEETING of the AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, NEWTOWN ST BOSWELLS on MONDAY, 15 JANUARY 2018 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,

8 January 2018

BUSINESS		
1.	Apologies for Absence.	
2.	Order of Business.	
3.	Declarations of Interest.	
4.	Minute. (Pages 3 - 6) Minute of Meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny held on 13 November 2017 to be approved and signed by the Chairman. (Copy attached.)	5 mins
5.	Risk Management in Services Presentation by Executive Director (Transformation) on the strategic risks facing the Council and his 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.	Internal Audit Work to December 2017 (Pages 7 - 20) Consider 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
7.	Audit of Housing Benefit - Risk Assessment Report (Pages 21 - 46) Consider report by Service Director - Customer & Communities detailing the outcome of the Housing Benefit Risk Assessment carried out by Audit Scotland. (Copy attached)	15 mins

8.	Treasury Management Strategy 2018/19 (Pages 47 - 90) Consider report by Chief Financial Officer on the Council's draft report and Treasury Management Strategy 2018/19 for review and scrutiny prior to presentation for Council approval. (Copy attached.)	30 mins
9.	Local Government in Scotland - Financial Overview 2016/17 (Pages 91 - 146) Consider report by the Accounts Commission published in November 2017 which provides an outline of the overall financial health of local government and the significant challenges for local government finance that lie ahead. Supplements including 'Scrutiny Tool for Councillors', 'Local Government Pension Scheme 2016/17' and 'Measures taken by Councils to close their funding gaps 2017/18' (Copies attached)	15 mins
10.	Any Other Audit Items Previously Circulated.	
11.	Any Other Audit 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 S. Bell (Chairman), H. Anderson, K. Chapman, J. A. Fullarton, S. Hamilton (Vice-Chairman), N. Richards, H. Scott, R. Tatler and E. Thornton-Nicol and Mr M Middlemiss.

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