

To: Councillor Williams (Chair)
Councillors G Dennis, Emberson, Gittings,
Mitchell, Thompson, Yeo and McGoldrick

Direct ☎:
michael.popham@reading.gov.uk

15 January 2024

Your contact is: **Michael Popham - Democratic Services Manager**

NOTICE OF MEETING - AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 23 JANUARY 2024

A meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee will be held on Tuesday, 23 January 2024 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Reading. The Agenda for the meeting is set out below.

	<u>WARDS AFFECTED</u>	<u>Page No</u>
1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST		
2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2023		5 - 12
3. QUESTIONS		
4. CLOSING FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS UPDATE	BOROUGH WIDE	13 - 16
This report updates the Committee on the progress of the audit of the Council's Final Accounts for 2020/21, as it nears completion. The report also provides an update on the 2021/22 and 2022/23 accounts.		
5. EXTERNAL AUDITOR UPDATE	BOROUGH WIDE	17 - 18
A representative from the Council's External Auditor, EY, will present an update on the audit of 2020/21 financial statements and the following year's statements and Value for Money assessments.		
6. INTERNAL AUDIT QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT	BOROUGH WIDE	19 - 84
This report provides an update on key findings emanating from Internal Audit reports issued since the last quarterly progress report.		

CIVIC OFFICES EMERGENCY EVACUATION: *If an alarm sounds, leave by the nearest fire exit quickly and calmly and assemble on the corner of Bridge Street and Fobney Street. You will be advised when it is safe to re-enter the building.*

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-------------------------|------------------|
| 7. | IMPLEMENTATION OF AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER | BOROUGH
WIDE | 85 - 102 |
| | This report sets out a summary of those high and medium risk Internal Audit recommendations which remain outstanding together with an updated management response. | | |
| 8. | STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER 2023/24 | BOROUGH
WIDE | 103 - 136 |
| | This report provides the latest update on the Strategic Risk Register 2023/24. | | |
| 9. | TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW QUARTER 2 2023/24 | BOROUGH
WIDE | 137 - 152 |
| | This report updates Members on the activity of the Treasury Management function during the second quarter of the year for the period 1 st July 2023 to 30 th September 2023. | | |
| 10. | IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW FINANCE SYSTEM UPDATE | BOROUGH
WIDE | 153 - 156 |
| | This report updates the Committee on the implementation of the new finance system, e5, which went live at the start of December 2023. | | |
| 11. | INFORMATION GOVERNANCE QUARTERLY UPDATE | BOROUGH
WIDE | 157 - 164 |
| | This report provides an update on the actions in progress to improve the Council's policies, systems and processes around Information Governance. | | |
| 12. | EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC | | |
| | The following motion will be moved by the Chair: | | |
| | “That, pursuant to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) members of the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following item on the agenda, as it is likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of that Act” | | |

ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED SESSION

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 13. | CYBER SECURITY UPDATE | BOROUGH
WIDE | 165 - 170 |
|-----|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|

WEBCASTING NOTICE

Please note that this meeting may be filmed for live and/or subsequent broadcast via the Council's website. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during a webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy.

Members of the public seated in the public gallery will not ordinarily be filmed by the automated camera system. However, please be aware that by moving forward of the pillar, or in the unlikely event of a technical malfunction or other unforeseen circumstances, your image may be captured. **Therefore, by entering the meeting room, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.**

Please speak to a member of staff if you have any queries or concerns.