

## Audit and Governance Committee

Held at:	Council Chamber - Civic Centre Folkestone
Date	Tuesday, 4 December 2018
Present	Councillors Michael Lyons, David Owen (Chairman) and Damon Robinson
Apologies for Absence	Councillor Paul Peacock and Councillor Mrs Susan Wallace
Officers Present:	Mark Anderson (East Kent Housing), Gavin Edwards, Amandeep Khroud (Assistant Director), Sue Lewis (Committee Services Officer), Mrs Christine Parker (Head of Audit Partnership), Mr Chris Parker (Deputy Head of Audit) and Charlotte Spendley (Assistant Director)
Others Present:	Elizabeth Jackson, Grant Thornton

### 45. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor David Owen declared a voluntary announcement in that he is a Board Member of East Kent Housing. He remained in the meeting and took part in the discussions and voting.

### 46. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2018 were submitted, approved and signed by the Chairman.

### 47. **Applications for dispensations under the Code of Conduct for Directors of Oportunitas**

Report AuG/18/17 considered the application for a dispensation under the code of conduct for councillors to speak and vote received by a councillor who is also a director of Oportunitas. The recommendation was that the dispensation be granted.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Lyons  
Seconded by Councillor Damon Robinson and

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. To receive report no AuG/18/17.**
- 2. To grant dispensations under the code of conduct and under section 33 Localism Act 2011 to Councillor Tillson to allow him to speak and vote at meetings where company affairs are discussed;**
- 3. That the dispensations be time limited to 2 May 2019;**
- 4. That in the event of a change of directors the monitoring officer be authorised to consider applications for and grant dispensations to any councillor who becomes a director of Oportunitas on the same terms provided that the councillor concerned is not a member of the cabinet and the dispensation is time limited in the same way.**

(Voting: For3; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

**48. Annual Governance Statement Actions - Half Year Update on 2018/19 Actions**

Report AuG/18/15 presented the current position on progress towards achieving the 2018/19 actions set out in the Annual Governance Statement.

Gavin Edwards, Policy and Improvement Officer presented the report and informed members of the following:

- Annual Review of Corporate Governance -completed ahead of schedule.
- Anti-fraud and corruption – it was agreed that members would be offered training, similar to that offered to staff, during the next round of training sessions due to take place in June 2019.

Proposed by Councillor Michael Lyons  
Seconded by Councillor Damon Robinson and

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. To receive and note report AuG/18/15.**
- 2. To note the progress towards achieving the actions in the Annual Governance Statement (Appendix 1 of the report).**

(Voting: For 3; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

**49. Corporate Risk Register**

Report AuG/18/16 presented a refreshed Corporate Risk Register based upon the updated Risk Management Policy & Strategy which was adopted by Cabinet in July.

Charlotte Spendley, Assistant Director, presented the report paying particular attention to appendix 2 and the 12 items listed in the risk register, she confirmed that there was a consistent framework that all officers now work to.

A quarterly report will be presented to the committee with an annual report being presented outlining strategy and policies to make recommendations to Cabinet with any changes.

Proposed by Councillor David Owen  
Seconded by Councillor Damon Robinson and

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. To receive and note report AuG/18/16.**

(Voting: For 3; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

50. **Grant Thornton's Quarterly External Audit update**

Report AuG/18/14 - Grant Thornton's report provided an update on recent audit work undertaken, progress against key deliverables and a brief technical update.

Elizabeth Jackson, Grant Thornton, presented the report informing members that she had nothing further to add other than initial work has started for 2018/19 and a report will be brought to the next meeting.

Proposed by Councillor David Owen  
Seconded by Councillor Michael Lyons and

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. To receive and note Report AuG/18/14.**

(Voting: For 3; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

51. **East Kent Audit Partnership (EKAP) Update Report**

Report AuG/18/12 included the summary of the work of the East Kent Audit Partnership (EKAP) since the last Audit and Governance Committee meeting together with details of the performance of the EKAP to the 30 September 2018.

Chris Parker, Deputy Head of Audit, presented the report informing members that there were no areas of concern.

Proposed by Councillor Damon Robinson  
Seconded by Councillor Michael Lyons and

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. To receive and note Report AuG/18/12.**
- 2. To note the results of the work carried out by the East Kent Audit Partnership.**

(Voting: For 3; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

52. **Exclusion of the Public**

Proposed by Councillor Michael Lyons  
Seconded by Councillor David Owen and

**Resolved: To exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it is likely to disclose exempt information, as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1, of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:-**

**Paragraph 3:**

**Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) 'Financial or business affairs' includes contemplated as well as current activities.**

(Voting: For 3; Against 0; Abstentions 0)

53. **Report from the Head of the East Kent Audit Partnership**

Report AuG/18/13 provides Members with an update of an audit completed by the East Kent Audit Partnership since the last Governance Committee meeting.

Proposed by Councillor David Owen  
Seconded by Councillor Michael Lyons and

**Resolved: To receive and note Report AuG/18/13.**

(Voting: For 3; Against 0; Abstentions 0)