

North Devon Council Civic Centre Barnstaple North Devon EX31 1EA

M. Mansell, BSc (Hons), C.P.F.A. Chief Executive

# AUDIT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Audit Committee will be held in the Torridge Room, Civic Centre, Barnstaple on **TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 6.00 P.M.** 

NOTE: An informal meeting of the Audit Committee will be held for Members to meet with the External Auditors at 5.45pm in the Torridge Room prior to the meeting of the Audit Committee.

Members of the Committee:

Councillor Bradford (Chairman) Councillor Croft (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors Chesters, Harrison, Haywood, Hockin and Ley.

## AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence.
- 2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014 (attached).
- 3. Items brought forward which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by the meeting as a matter of urgency.
- 4. Declarations of Interests. (Please complete the form provided at the meeting or telephone Member Services to prepare a form for your signature before the meeting. Interests must be re-declared when the item is called, and Councillors must leave the room if necessary.)
- 5. To agree the agenda between Part 'A' and Part 'B' (Confidential Restricted Information).

# <u> PART 'A'</u>

- 6. **External Audit, Audit Committee Update.** Report by Grant Thornton (attached). (Pages 1 to 13).
- 7. **External Audit Annual Audit Letter 2013/14.** Report by Grant Thornton (attached). (Pages 14 to 20)

- 8. **Value for Money Report 2013/14.** Report by Grant Thornton (attached). (Pages 21 to 42)
- 9. **Protecting the Public Purse Fraud Briefing 2014.** Presentation by Grant Thornton.
- 10. **Certification Report for North Devon Council 2013/14.** Report by Grant Thornton (attached). (Pages 43 to 52)
- 11. **Statement of Accounts 2013/14 Trading Operations.** Report by Chief Financial Officer (attached). (Pages 53 to 72)
- 12. **Internal Audit Report Housing Benefits 2014/15.** Report by MAZARS Public Sector Internal Audit Limited (attached). (Pages 73 to 87).
- 13. **Internal Audit Progress Report.** Report by MAZARS Public Sector Internal Audit Limited (attached). (Pages 88 to 114).
- 14. **Audit Recommendation Tracker.** Report by Senior Projects Officer (attached). (Pages 115 to 127).
- 15. **Work Programme 2014/15.** To consider the work programme (attached). (Page 128).

## PART 'B' (Confidential Restricted Information).

Nil

<u>Reminder</u> - Members please return your agenda to the Member Services Officer at the end of the meeting.

### If you have any enquiries about this agenda, please contact Member Services, telephone numbers 01271 388253/388254



## North Devon Council protocol on recording/filming at Council meetings

The Council is committed to openness and transparency in its decision-making. Recording is permitted at Council meetings that are open to the public. The Council understands that some members of the public attending its meetings may not wish to be recorded. The Chairman of the meeting will make sure any request not to be recorded is respected.

The rules that the Council will apply are:

- 1. The recording must be overt (clearly visible to anyone at the meeting) and must not disrupt proceedings. The Council will put signs up at any meeting where we know recording is taking place.
- 2. The Chairman of the meeting has absolute discretion to stop or suspend recording if, in their opinion, continuing to do so would prejudice proceedings at the meeting or if the person recording is in breach of these rules.
- 3. We will ask for recording to stop if the meeting goes into 'part B' where the public is excluded for confidentiality reasons. In such a case, the person filming should leave the room ensuring all recording equipment is switched off.
- 4. Any member of the public has the right not to be recorded. We ensure that agendas for, and signage at, Council meetings make it clear that recording can take place anyone not wishing to be recorded must advise the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.
- 5. The recording should not be edited in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or in a way that ridicules or shows a lack of respect for those in the recording. The Council would expect any recording in breach of these rules to be removed from public view.

#### Notes for guidance:

Please contact either our Member Services team or our Communications team in advance of the meeting you wish to record at so we can make all the necessary arrangements for you on the day.

For more information contact the Member Services team on **01271 388254** or email **memberservices@northdevon.gov.uk** or the Communications Team on **01271 388278**, email **communications@northdevon.gov.uk**.