



North Devon Council
Brynsworthy Environment Centre
Barnstaple
North Devon EX31 3NP

K. Miles
Chief Executive.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Governance Committee will be held as a Virtual – Online meeting on **TUESDAY, 12TH JANUARY, 2021 at 6.30 pm.**

Members of the Committee Councillor Roome (Chair)

Councillors Bushell, Campbell, Jenkins, Lane, Luggar, Phillips, Topps and Walker

AGENDA

1. Virtual meetings procedure - briefing and etiquette
Chair to report.
2. Apologies for absence
3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2020 subject to: (Pages 5 - 10)
The replacement of the word “Insurance” with “Assurance” in minute 114.
4. Items brought forward which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered by the meeting as a matter of urgency.
5. Declarations of Interests.
(Please complete the form provided at the meeting or telephone Corporate and Community 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.)
6. To agree the agenda between Part 'A' and Part 'B' (Confidential Restricted Information).

PART A

7. **Update on Governance Arrangements**
Chief Executive to report.
8. **Update on Business Continuity**
Chief Executive to report.

9. **Internal Audit Progress Report** (Pages 11 - 20)
Report by Devon Audit Partnership (attached).
10. **External Audit Annual Audit Letter** (Pages 21 - 38)
Report by Grant Thornton (attached).
11. **External Audit Progress Report and Sector Update.** (Pages 39 - 54)
Report by Grant Thornton (attached).
12. **Audit Recommendation Tracker** (Pages 55 - 62)
Report by the Chief Executive (attached).
13. **Work Programme 2020-2021** (Pages 63 - 66)
To consider the Work Programme 2020-21 (attached).

PART B (CONFIDENTIAL RESTRICTED INFORMATION)

Nil.

**If you have any enquiries about this agenda, please contact Corporate and
Community Services, telephone 01271 388253**

4.01.21



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 and a reminder will be issued at the commencement of virtual meetings.
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. In a virtual meeting the public will be excluded from the meeting while in Part B.
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. Public contributions to virtual meetings will be recorded, unless, at the Chair's discretion, recording is deemed inappropriate in accordance with point 2 above.
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 Corporate and Community 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 Corporate and Community Services team on **01271 388253** or email **memberservices@northdevon.gov.uk** or the Communications Team on **01271 388278**, email **communications@northdevon.gov.uk**.

Meeting Etiquette Reminder for Members

Members are reminded to:

- Join the meeting at least 10-15 minutes prior to the commencement to ensure that the meeting starts on time.
- Behave as you would in a formal committee setting.
- Address Councillors and officers by their full names.
- Do not have Members of your household in the same room.
- Be aware of what is in screen shot.
- Mute your microphone when you are not talking.
- Switch off video if you are not speaking.
- Only speak when invited to do so by the Chair.
- Speak clearly (if you are not using video then please state your name)
- If you're referring to a specific page, mention the page number.
- Switch off your video and microphone after you have spoken.
- The only person on video will be the Chair and the one other person speaking.
- Only use the Chat function to register that you wish to speak or to move or second a motion.

Virtual attendance by members of the public

If members of the public wish to attend virtually, please contact Corporate and Community services on 01271 388253 or memberservices@northdevon.gov.uk by 12pm on the Monday preceding the meeting.