

Minutes of the Audit Committee

29 March 2021

-: Present :-

Councillor Loxton (Chairman)

Councillors Atiya-Alla, Brooks, Hill, Kennedy and O'Dwyer

(Also in attendance: Councillors Douglas-Dunbar)

234. Apologies

It was reported that, in accordance with the wishes of the Liberal Democrat Group, the membership of the Committee had been amended for this meeting by including Councillor Atiya-Alla instead of Councillor Howgate.

235. Corporate Performance and Corporate Risk Report

The Committee considered the submitted report which was presented by the Strategic Support Manager. Updates on current performance was provided by the Director of Adult Services, the Chief Executive, the Director of Place, the Director of Finance and Assistant Director for Community and Customer Services.

The Committee was advised that the current performance monitoring database did not current needs and the Council are looking to replace the system with new software. Combined with a dedicated officer for performance would also provide better information for the Council. The Director of Adult Services advised performance indicators for adult social care was being undertaken.

Members questioned the control of dogs and fouling, together with the powers of the new Enforcement Agency. Data in respect of domestic abuse and rough sleepers was referred to at the meeting and the resilience of staff during the recent pandemic. Public financial information on budget implications on the current and future budgets was discussed, in particular in respect of rental income. The Chief Executive provided an update on raising the profile of Torbay as a visitor destination by investing in the capital infrastructure and work with partner agencies.

At this juncture, the Committee unanimously resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting on the grounds exempt information, as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) would be disclosed.

Resolved:

- (i) that the suggestions made to the Strategic Support Officer at the beginning of the meeting are undertaken;
- (ii) that the Torbay Lottery and successful applicants are advertised;
- (iii) that the Disability Facilities Grant be publicised, including how to apply for a grant;
- (iv) data on those of out of work, including age profiles, and data on earnings by gross to be provided to the Committee;
- (v) the results of the staff survey be sent to Committee;
- (vi) those involved in the recruitment process for the Chief Executive to meet regularly hereafter; and
- (vii) the Cabinet to endorse future processes with businesses, tourism/visitors and appropriate Council officers to ensure repeat business benefit for the bay.

Chairman