

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CABINET COMMITTEE – GROUP COMPANY GOVERNANCE

**Tuesday 13 November 2018 at 1500
hours in Committee Room 2, Council
House, Victoria Square, Birmingham**

Attendance:

Councillor Brigid Jones in the Chair;
Councillor Debbie Clancy

Also in Attendance:

Kate Charlton	City Solicitor	
Clive Heaphy	Strategic Director, Finance & Governance	
Alison Jarrett	Assistant Director, Finance & Governance	
Connie Price -	Head of Service - Legal	
Georgina Dean-	Solicitor	
Martin Stevens	Head of City Finance Accounts	
Richard Tibbatts	Head of Category – Strategic Services	
Marie Reynolds	Committee Services	
Ian Briggs	Chair	– Acivico
Leo McMulkin	Chief Operating Officer	– Acivico
Annabel Scholes	Interim Finance Director	– Acivico

APOLOGIES

- 1 Councillors Brett O'Reilly and Jon Hunt submitted their apologies.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

- 2 Clive Heaphy, Alison Jarrett, Martin Stevens, Georgina Dean – interests detailed in Council Related Companies – Report of the Corporate Director, Finance and Governance (Appendices 2 & 3).

NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- 3 The notes of the last meeting were agreed.

UPDATE ON TRAINING FOR COMPANY MEMBERS AND COMPANY DIRECTORS

- 4 Connie Price, Legal Services, updated the Committee on the training Members and officers had received to date and the further training that they would be receiving in the near future.

(See document No. 1)

RESOLVED:-

The Committee noted:-

Councillor Debbie Clancy- training requirement

Committee Members & wider director training – expect mid-December 2018.

COUNCIL RELATED COMPANIES

- 5 The following report of the Corporate Director, Finance and Governance was submitted:-

(See document No. 2)

Martin Stevens, Head of City Finance introduced the report which detailed the current composition of companies with which the Council has a relationship and which may fall within the scope of consolidation in the Council's Group financial statements.

During the discussion the following action points were captured:-

- List of Companies – Work through list by order of size - incremental
- Pen portraits
- Active/Dormant
- Health check
- Regular update

RESOLVED:-

The Committee noted the following:-

The detail of companies

Considered the impact on the forward plan of the Committee.

GROUP COMPANY RISK REGISTER

- 6 The following report of the Corporate Director, Finance and Governance was submitted:-

(See document No. 3)

Martin Stevens, Head of City Finance introduced the report.

During the discussion the following action points were captured:-

- Consideration be given to the BCC's process appointing directors

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- Clear criteria – (appropriate skills – importance of training for all directors in order to sit on boards
- Group Leaders/Group Secretaries to be made aware (CBM agenda)
- To be included in the Work Programme

RESOLVED:-

The Committee considered the information provided;

determine whether the judgement on the risks were reasonable and assess whether mitigating actions reduce the risks to the Council sufficiently.

GROUP COMPANY - RISK ASSURANCE REQUEST

- 7 The following report of the Corporate Director, Finance and Governance was submitted:-

(See document No. 4)

Martin Stevens, Head of City Finance introduced the report and subsequently referred to the attached questionnaire. He confirmed that it would be sent out shortly with the results of the questionnaire available in January 2019.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee reviewed and approved the questionnaire, seeking information from the Council's group companies, for circulation.

GROUP COMPANY GOVERNANCE – SECTION 24 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8 The following report of the Corporate Director, Finance and Governance was submitted:-

(See document No. 5)

Martin Stevens, Head of City Finance introduced the report and highlighted that it sets out the progress to date in delivering the actions proposed to mitigate the concerns of the External Auditor.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee noted:-

The proposed actions to mitigate the concerns of the External Auditor;
the progress in delivering the proposed actions to date.

ACIVICO LIMITED – PEN PORTRAIT

- 9 The following report of the Corporate Director, Finance and Governance was submitted:-

(See document No. 6)

Martin Stevens, Head of City Finance introduced the report.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee noted the report.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 10 The Committee noted the schedule of meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 12 December 2018 at 1000 hours in Committee Room 2, Council House.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

CABINET COMMITTEE GCG COMMITTEE – EXTRA NOMINEES

- 11 Kate Charlton – to take to Group Leaders for discussion.
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EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

- 12 **RESOLVED:-**

That, in view of the sensitive nature of the discussion due to take place relating to Acivico Limited, the public be now excluded from the meeting.
