




BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

29 NOVEMBER 2021

SCHEDULE OF OUTSTANDING MINUTES

Note: As of 30 September 2021 – Responses to outstanding actions to be made within a 2 month period unless there is an exceptional reason.

 Completed & discharged
 Approaching 2 months
 2 months +

MINUTE NO./DATE	SUBJECT MATTER	COMMENTS
334 29/06/2021	<p><u>ASSURANCE SESSION – CABINET MEMBER STREET SCENE & PARKS PORTFOLIO</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendations:</u></p> <p>(ii) The Committee to receive a briefing note on the restructure of the Street Scene service area.</p> <p>(iii) The Committee to receive a formal response to the use of tips via Bromsgrove City Council as there was a lack of household recycling centres in the South of the City.</p>	<p>Rob James – Director for City Operations to lead on responses.</p> <p>Note: 15/10/2021 – Responses sent to Members however, at the 19 October meeting, Members were not content with the responses received. A further response to be provided by the service area.</p>
335 29/06/2021	<p><u>BIRMINGHAM AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendation:</u></p> <p>iii) That the Committee agreed for an update on procurement contracts, process, controls, and governance to be provided at a future committee.</p>	<p>Scheduled for 29 November Committee (Link into Finance & Resources Portfolio discussions)</p> <p>Note: Updates will be provided at the 29 November meeting.</p>

<p>350 26/07/2021</p>	<p><u>ASSURANCE SESSION – CABINET MEMBER EDUCATION, SKILLS & CULTURE PORTFOLIO</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendations:</u></p> <p>That the Audit Committee;</p> <p>(ii) Agreed for a written response outlining the number of children missing in education, children missing and the work around the safeguarding to be provided.</p> <p>(iii) Noted the Assistant Director – Legal Services & Deputy Monitoring Officer to review the contract for the interim Director for Education and Skills and provide this to Councillor Jenkins if appropriate.</p> <p>The Office of the Monitoring Officer has had the opportunity to consider Cllr Jenkins request for copy of the contract as between the former DCS (Kevin Crompton) and the Council. There is no direct contract of engagement as between the Council and the former DCS. There exist two contracts. The first as between the former DCS and his supplier agency. The second as between the supplier agency and the Council.</p> <p>The Office of the Monitoring Officer has reviewed the first contract. Details of the former DCS' remuneration are already in the public domain as all interim JNC Officers remuneration was provided to Full Council earlier this year.</p> <p>It is not considered appropriate to release to individual Audit Committee members copies of agency supplier contracts. The content would not assist Audit Committee members in furtherance of the terms of reference of Audit Committee. In addition, the content would likely be deemed commercially sensitive information by a supplier agency.</p> <p>(iv) Agreed for a written response to be provided to Councillor Morrall around;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ additional funding West Midlands Combined Authority 2021-22; ➤ costs associated with Acivico - replacing boilers in schools and maintaining buildings; ➤ who were the competitors as there was reduction in BAES fees and non-public programmes decreased income streams; 	<p>Kevin Crompton – Interim Director for Education & Skills to lead on responses.</p> <p>Note: Comments from the Office of the Monitoring Officer under action (iii)</p> <p>Note: 18/10/2021- Responses sent to Members however, outstanding action on the up to date figures on elective home education, children missing education and children missing from home /care. This should be</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IT Infrastructure – what was happening with Adult learning, laptops being provided; ➤ increasing home-schooling – figures pre-Covid and through Covid period; ➤ school exclusions – the demographics (i.e. gender, race etc) and what was happening to re-engage children as there was a lot of gang culture and CSE's when children drop out of schools. 	provided end of Oct/ Nov.
351 26/07/2021	<p><u>OMBUDSMAN REPORT CONCERNING A COMPLAINT ABOUT HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendations:</u></p> <p>That the Audit Committee,</p> <p>(ii) Agreed for the Interim Director for Education & Skills to provide a formal response to the Audit Committee on the following areas of the complaints;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) when was the department and the council advised of the complaints, 2) which officers considered whether the matter should be taken up by the council, 3) whether the Cabinet Member was advised of the action to be considered by the city council, 4) what was the decision and if there was a decision not to investigate, whether the Cabinet Member was/was not informed of that decision, 5) concerns highlighted by the Ombudsman around the 'right to appeal', 6) The procedure that the service currently operated to be shared with members <p>(iii) Agreed that once replies to the questions listed in part ii of this resolution were received, the Interim Chief Executive and Interim Director to provide a response to the process which would be in place to deal with the matters raised by the Committee.</p>	<p>Kevin Crompton – Interim Director for Education & Skills to lead on responses.</p> <p>Note: 18/10/2021- Responses sent to Members</p> <p>Completed & Discharged</p>
364 30/09/2021	<p><u>STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2020/21 & AFR PROGRESS REPORT</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendations:</u></p> <p><u>(Audit Findings Report Progress Report)</u></p> <p>That the Audit Committee;</p> <p>(ii) Agreed for the Chair of the Audit Committee to write to the Resources Overview & Scrutiny</p>	<p>Councillor Grindrod</p>

	<p>highlighting transparency issues raised on partner funding for the CWG.</p> <p>(iii) Agreed for officers to review the risk and learnings CWG partner funding linked to CIPFA's work.</p> <p>(iv) Agreed for a review to be shared at a future meeting around reflecting on challenges of business grants and how effective the Council was on delivering these on behalf of Government.</p>	<p>Rebecca Hellard/ Mohammed Sajid Note: Business as usual (BAU) – ongoing</p> <p>Sarah Dunlavey/ Peter Bishop</p> <p>Note: Update provided by Peter Bishop at the 19/10/2021 meeting as part of the Assurance Session for the Deputy Leader.</p> <p>In addition, 09/11/2021- Response sent to Members (linked to additional action from Minute 365 30/09/2021)</p>
365 30/09/2021	<p><u>EXTERNAL AUDITORS PROGRESS UPDATE</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendation:</u></p> <p>That the Audit Committee;</p> <p>(ii) Requested further explanation as to why the remaining £5.1 million of business grants was not released to businesses.</p>	<p>Sarah Dunlavey/ Peter Bishop</p> <p>Note: 09/11/2021- Response sent to Members.</p>
377 19/10/2021	<p><u>ASSURANCE SESSION – THE DEPUTY LEADER'S PORTFOLIO</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendations:</u></p> <p>That the Audit Committee;</p> <p>(ii) Agreed for a briefing to be offered to all Members of the Council on Cyber Security, GDPR and roles related to data processing.</p> <p>(iii) Agreed for a briefing note to be provided to Audit Committee on the shared learnings of the Complaints area from both from Audit Committee and Coordinating O&S Committee.</p>	<p>Peter Bishop – Director, Digital & Customer Services to lead on responses.</p>

<p>379 19/10/2021</p>	<p><u>STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2020/21 & AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendations:</u></p> <p>That the Audit Committee;</p> <p>(iii) Subject to any amendments or qualifications submitted from the external auditors, the Committee agree to delegate approval of the Statement of Accounts to the Chair of Audit Committee. In the event of amendments or qualifications to the Statement of Accounts, Members of the Audit Committee will determine whether a further and additional Audit Committee meeting in person is required to approve the Statement of Accounts.</p> <p>(iv) Noted further information on Lender Option Borrower Option's to be provided to Members.</p>	<p>Mohammed Sajid</p> <p>Mohammed Sajid</p>
<p>381 19/10/2021</p>	<p><u>REPORT INTO ISSUES RELATED TO THE TRAVEL ASSIST SERVICE</u></p> <p><u>Additional Recommendations:</u></p> <p>That the Audit Committee;</p> <p>(ii) Noted a written response would be provided on safeguarding measures Voluntary organisations and Early Year providers were expected to have in place and the support provided by BCC.</p> <p>(iii) Noted a continual reflection and updates to be made on the actions to the responses of the recommendations in the Weightman's report.</p> <p>(iv) Agreed once the root and branch review on Procurement, Commissioning, assurances, systemic challenges were completed, a report to be provided to the Audit Committee on its findings.</p>	<p>Kevin Crompton – Interim Director for Education & Skills to lead on responses</p> <p>Note: 17/11/2021- Response sent to Members.</p> <p>Sue Harrison - New Interim Director for Education & Skills to lead on response</p> <p>Steve Sandercock Assistant Director – Procurement (Interim)</p> <p>Note: 17/11/2021- Presentation circulated to Members outlining the approach to this work. A report on the findings will be shared with the Committee in March 2022.</p>