

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 06 OCTOBER 2023 AT 14:00 HOURS
IN EXTRAORDINARY AUDIT COMMITTEE, COMMITTEE ROOMS
3&4, COUNCIL HOUSE, [VENUE ADDRESS]

A G E N D A

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chair to advise/meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Public-I microsite ([please click this link](#)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members are reminded they must declare all relevant pecuniary and other registerable interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting.

If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared a Member must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless they have been granted a dispensation.

If other registerable interests are declared a Member may speak on the matter only if members of the public are allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless they have been granted a dispensation.

If it is a 'sensitive interest', Members do not have to disclose the nature of the interest, just that they have an interest.

Information on the Local Government Association's Model Councillor Code of Conduct is set out via <http://bit.ly/3WtGQnN>. This includes, at Appendix 1, an interests flowchart which provides a simple guide to declaring interests at meetings.

4 **EXEMPT INFORMATION – POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

a) To consider whether any matter on the agenda contains exempt information within the meaning of Section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972, and where it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.

b) If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-

RESOLVED – That, in accordance with Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation order) 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of those parts of the agenda designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information.

5 **MINUTES - AUDIT COMMITTEE 27 SEPTEMBER 2023**

To note that the minutes from the meeting held on 27 September 2023 will be presented at the next meeting.

6 **ASSURANCE SESSION - THE LEADER'S PORTFOLIO**

5 - 8

(45 minutes allocated) (1405 – 1450 hours)

Report of the Leader

7 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 18 October 2023 at 1400 hours in Committee Room 3 & 4, Council House.

8 **OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chair are matters of urgency.

9 **AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS**

Chair to move:-

'In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee'.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC REPORT

Report to:	Audit Committee
Report of:	Leader
Date of Meeting:	Friday 6th October 2023
Subject:	Assurance Session – Leader’s Portfolio
Wards Affected:	All
<p>1. Purpose of Report</p> <p>1.1 To enable Members of the Committee to ask the Leader of the Council questions, concerning issues in relation to equal pay, oracle and financial sustainability.</p> <p>2. Recommendation</p> <p>2.1 That the Audit Committee:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i) note the verbal update.</p> <p>3. Legal Implications</p> <p>3.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.</p> <p>4. Financial Implications</p> <p>4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.</p> <p>5. Background</p> <p>5.1 The Leader’s portfolio covers the following areas: <i>See Appendix 1</i></p>	

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Appendix 1

Leader's Portfolio

Strategic policies	Development and implementation of the Council Business Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy/Budget.
Structure and Governance of the Council	Overall organisational design of the Council, including the Council's corporate governance arrangements.
Lord Mayor's office	Appropriate support to the Lord Mayor and other holders of civic office.
Communications	Internal and external stakeholder engagement and formal consultation on Council performance and use of resources.
Financial strategy	In conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources, the Council's strategic approach to the use of financial resources and budget, including alignment between other local authority bodies (e.g. Combined Authority), partners (e.g. Health, LEP etc), the BCC General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, capital spending and the use of reserves.
Council Wide Efficiency and Improvement	Jointly, with the Deputy Leader, to take a strategic lead in relation to efficiency and improvement across all Council services and to foster lean governance in all areas of Council work.
Policy and Partnerships	Positioning Birmingham as a leader in public policy development at city, regional, national, European and international levels. Representing the Council's policy agenda as appropriate through proactive engagement with Government, national policy networks and relations with the media.
West Midlands Combined Authority	Representing the City Council on the West Midlands Combined Authority Board
Major projects	Responsibility for major physical regeneration and infrastructure projects in the city and engagement with key economic growth partners, partnerships, and investors in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness.
Promotion of the city and Inward Investment	Working in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism for Promotion of the city and Inward Investment. Promotion of Birmingham regionally, nationally and internationally. This includes work with partners such as West Midlands Growth Company, the universities, and cultural organisations of citywide, regional, or national significance. Marketing Strategies to encourage investment in Birmingham.
Council land use and property assets including appropriation	Oversight of the Council's land use and property strategy and asset management plan including framework for reuse, disposal and requisition of land and property in the Council's priorities – including assets of heritage and community value. Including oversight of Council owned land and property facilities, amenities and services including markets
Economic growth and jobs	Strategic approach to economic growth and regeneration programmes and strategic planning policy. Representing the City Council on the Local

	Enterprise Partnership Board.
Business Improvement Districts	Partnerships with the Business Improvement Districts, including city centre management opportunities.
Land Use Planning	Local Development Plan, Neighbourhood Plans, Development Briefs and Supplementary Guidance; including advice to Planning Committee.
Housing Development	To review the supply of housing and tenure based on an analysis of housing need.
Enforcement	In relation to licensing policy and enforcement
Localisation	Neighbourhood Management – Development of the Council’s neighbourhood engagement model and work with wider Council and partners to ensure integration at the local level.
Human Resources (including Member Development Programmes)	<p>An effective organisational development function for shaping the future workforce of the Council.</p> <p>Development of effective change/transformational programmes deployed corporately.</p> <p>Member development programmes.</p> <p>Processes and procedures to support good staff performance development and equality objectives.</p> <p>Staffing structures at JNC level and personnel procedures that comply with good practice and natural justice.</p> <p>[The Council Business Management Committee deals with issues around the employment of staff and their terms and conditions of employment].</p>
Major Sporting Events Development	Jointly with the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage & Tourism

