

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee held in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Thursday, 27th June 2024 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT:

Alderman S P Porter (Chair)

Mr E Jardine (Independent Member and Vice-Chair)

Alderman O Gawith

Councillors D Bassett, P Burke, S Burns, N Eaton,
A P Ewing and M McKeever

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive

Director of Organisation Development & Innovation

Director of Finance & Corporate Services

Head of Finance

Internal Auditor

Member Services Officers (RN & EW)

In Remote Location

Mr R Ross, Northern Ireland Audit Office

Mr B Stewart, RBCA Chartered Accountants

Commencement of the Meeting

The Chair, Alderman S P Porter, welcomed all present to the meeting, including the officials from the Northern Ireland Audit Office and RBCA Chartered Accountants. The Chair pointed out that, unless the item on the agenda was considered under confidential business, the meeting would be audio recorded.

The Chair asked that mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting. The Director of Organisation Development & Innovation outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

Councillor P Burke entered the Chamber during the announcement in regard to the evacuation procedures. (6.02 pm)

1. **Apologies**

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson; Councillors D J Craig, A Givan, S Lowry, P Kennedy and A Martin; and the Internal Audit Manager.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Confidential Business

The item of business in the confidential report would be dealt with “in Committee” due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

“In Committee”

It was proposed by Councillor A P Ewing, seconded by Councillor M McKeever, and agreed that the following matter be considered “in Committee”, in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

3.1 Draft Statement of Accounts for the Year Ending 31 March 2024
(Report will never become available but Final Certified Accounts will be published)

Presented by Head of Finance who also responded to a number of questions.

In addition to the narrative report of the Head of Finance, Members had been provided with a copy of the Draft Statement of Accounts for the Year Ending 31 March 2024, which included the Governance Statement.

It was proposed by Alderman O Gawith, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed that the Draft Statement of Accounts be approved and - in line with the authority delegated to the Committee by the Council in December 2023 – be submitted to the Northern Ireland Audit Office by the 30th June 2024.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair, Alderman S P Porter, thanked Officers for their work in preparing the Draft Statement of Accounts.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Alderman O Gawith, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed to come “out of Committee” and normal business was resumed.

There being no further business, the Special Meeting concluded at 6.11 pm.

Mayor/Chair