

# NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

28 June 2021

### PROGRESS ON ISSUES RAISED BY THE COMMITTEE

#### Joint Report of the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources and the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To advise Members of

- (i) progress on issues which the Committee has raised at previous meetings
- (ii) other matters that have arisen since the last meeting and that relate to the work of the Committee

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 This report is submitted to each meeting listing the Committee's previous Resolutions and / or when it requested further information be submitted to future meetings. The table below represents the list of issues which were identified at previous Audit Committee meetings and which have not yet been resolved. The table also indicates where the issues are regarded as completed and will therefore not be carried forward to this agenda item at the next Audit Committee meeting.

Date	Minute number and subject	Audit Committee Resolution	Comment	Complete?
20.12.19	159 – Audit Committee Work Programme	That, in respect of training sessions held immediately prior to the Committee's meetings:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Governance of the Highways Teckal be scheduled for 26 October 2020</li><li>ii. Pensions Governance be scheduled for 27 March 2020</li><li>iii. A session about Beyond 2020 including Property Rationalisation be organised for the External Members only</li></ul>	Governance of external companies is also to be added.  As agreed at the last meeting training sessions will recommence in 2021.	X
14.12.20	185 – CIPFA Financial Management Code	That a further report on progress be brought back to Audit Committee ahead of the deadline for full compliance	To be considered alongside SoFA updates as appropriate	X

<b>Date</b>	<b>Minute number and subject</b>	<b>Audit Committee Resolution</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Complete?</b>
22.03.21	200 – Programme of Work	Training regarding Treasury Management, possibly involving Link and John Raine, lasting at least an hour, could be held in either June or September	This training has been arranged for 30 June 2021	x
22.03.21	200 – Programme of Work	Training about the governance of the external companies could be held as a follow- up session and be combined with a more detailed session about commercial investments.		x

### **3.0 TREASURY MANAGEMENT**

- 3.1 The County Council's Treasury Advisors, Link, have revised their Interest Rate forecasts in May 2021 and are now forecasting an increase in Bank Rate from 0.10% to 0.25% in September 2023. Previous estimates had forecasted the first increase to be in 2025 at the earliest. This decision is based on the view that the current 0.10% Bank Rate is an emergency response to a dire economic situation and that an increase to 0.25% may be needed to allow the MPC more flexibility in using Bank Rate cuts as a monetary policy tool in future.
- 3.2 The CIPFA Code requires Audit Committee members with responsibility for scrutiny for treasury management receive regular and appropriate training. As a result, a Treasury Management training session has been scheduled for 30 June. Training will be focussed on Members scrutiny role and will be provided by Treasury Management Consultants, Link Asset Services – Treasury Solutions.

### **4.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 That the Committee considers whether any further follow-up action is required on any of the matters referred to in this report.

GARY FIELDING  
Corporate Director – Strategic Resources

BARRY KHAN  
Assistant Chief Executive  
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall  
NORTHALLERTON

28 June 2021

**Background Documents:** Report to, and Minutes of, Audit Committee meetings held on 22 March 2021