

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Governance and Audit Committee held
at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK on Wednesday, 31st July, 2024 at
2.00 pm**

PRESENT: Andrew Blackmore (Chair)
County Councillor Tony Easson (Vice-Chair)

Lay Members: Colin Prosser and Rhodri Guest

County Councillors: Sara Burch, John Crook, Malcolm Lane,
Phil Murphy and Ann Webb

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Jan Furtek | Acting Chief Internal Auditor |
| Richard Jones | Performance and Data Insight Manager |
| Jonathan Davies | Head of Finance |
| Rachel Freitag | Audit Wales Officer |
| Ruth Donovan | Assistant Head of Finance |
| David Jarrett | Accountant |

APOLOGIES:

County Councillor Peter Strong
Martin Veale

1. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

2. Public Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance.

3. To note the Action List from the previous meeting

The action list from the previous meeting was noted.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/ujpU5nZXJlc?si=fE8g9hDsT9q1D0Pq&t=69>

1. Update on the 3 ISA260 recommendations: OPEN

4. 2024/5 Q1 - Treasury Report

The Head of Finance presented the Quarter 1 Treasury Report 2024/25. Following this, Committee Members were invited to comment and ask questions:

https://www.youtube.com/live/ujpU5nZXJlc?si=jvd9le_0-ebgYMuF&t=318

As recommended the Governance & Audit Committee reviewed the treasury management activities and the performance achieved in the first quarter of 2024/25 as

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part of its delegated responsibility to provide scrutiny of treasury policy, strategy and activity on behalf of Council.

5. Draft Statement of Accounts 2023/24 – Charitable Trust Funds

The Head of Finance presented the Draft Statement of Accounts 2023/24 – Charitable Trust Funds. Following presentation of the report, questions were invited from Committee Members:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/ujpU5nZXJlc?si=SIDzMqeM69GaExDN&t=898>

As per the report recommendations, the Governance & Audit Committee reviewed the 2023/24 draft Statement of Accounts for the above bodies and had the opportunity to provide comments or proposed amendments which will be considered alongside the external audit process and prior to publication of final accounts.

6. 2023/24 MCC Draft Statement of Accounts

The Head of Finance presented the draft Monmouthshire County Council Statement of Accounts 2023/24 and sought feedback and comments from the Committee.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/ujpU5nZXJlc?si=kucQj7JIEqTLG4wq&t=1276>

As in the report recommendations, the Governance & Audit Committee:

1. Reviewed the 2023/24 draft Statement of Accounts and highlighted any queries and comments; and
2. Noted that following the completion of the external audit process, the audited Statement of Accounts for 2023/24, alongside the outcome of the external audit process, will be presented to this Committee.

7. Governance and Audit Committee Forward Work Plan

The Governance and Audit Committee Forward Work Plan was noted.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/ujpU5nZXJlc?si=H4NrGIQkU4HILZMU&t=3255>

8. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as an accurate record.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/ujpU5nZXJlc?si=7SCGFNSJA1UpPWwt&t=3280>

9. Date of Next Meeting

5th September 2024.

Meeting ended at 2.59 pm.