

Crawley Borough Council

Governance Committee

Agenda for the **Governance Committee** which will be held in **Ashurst Main Hall - The Charis Centre**, on **Monday, 21 March 2022** at **7.00 pm**

Nightline Telephone No. 07881 500 227



Chief Executive

Membership:
Councillors

K McCarthy (Chair), T Lunnon (Vice-Chair), R D Burrett, D Crow,
C R Eade, M Flack, G S Jhans, P K Lamb, R A Lanzer and S Malik

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The order of business may change at the Chair's discretion

Part A Business (Open to the Public)

	Pages
1. Apologies for Absence	
2. Disclosures of Interest	
In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, councillors are reminded that it is a requirement to declare interests where appropriate.	
3. Minutes	5 - 12
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Governance Committee held on 21 September 2021.	
4. Public Question Time	
To answer any questions asked by the public which relate to an item on this agenda and which are in line with the Council's Constitution.	
Public Question Time will be concluded by the Chair when all questions have been answered or on the expiry of a period of 15 minutes, whichever is the earlier.	
5. Code of Conduct for Councillors	13 - 48
To consider report LDS/178 of the Head of Legal, Governance and HR.	
6. Review of Provisions Relating to Call-In and Urgency	49 - 52
There have been six cases, during the period since the last report, where items have been protected from the Call-In Procedure on the grounds of urgency as provided for in Call-In Procedure Rule 8.	
In line with the Urgency provisions set out in paragraph 16 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Constitution, the decisions set out in report LDS/177 of the Head of Legal, Governance and HR were Protected from Call-In (under Call-In Procedure Rule 8 of the Constitution) by the Chief Executive (as Head of Paid Service) due to their urgent nature.	

Due to the circumstances surrounding the Protections from Call-In it is not deemed necessary to change the provisions at this stage.

Recommendation

That no change to the provisions relating to Call-In and Urgency be made.

7. Councillors' Allowances Scheme: Update

The current [Councillors' Allowances Scheme](#), approved by the Full Council on [24 February 2021](#), has effect until 31 March 2023. The Scheme will be reviewed by an Independent Remuneration Panel in the coming year with a view to feeding the allowances in to the 2023/24 Budget. As the Mayoral allowances do not form part of the main Allowances Scheme, the Governance Committee will need to decide whether the Mayoral allowances should be considered by the Panel at the same time as the main review. It is intended that a proposed Councillors' Allowances Scheme be brought to the Governance Committee in September 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

1. Notes that the current Councillors' Allowances Scheme remains in effect until 31 March 2023.
2. Decides whether the Mayoral allowances should be considered by the Independent Remuneration Panel at the same time as the review of the Councillors' Allowances Scheme.
3. Requests that the Head of Legal, Governance and HR puts in place the necessary arrangements to ensure that a review of the Councillors' Allowances Scheme takes place in order for the allowances to feed into the 2023/24 Budget.

8. Outside Bodies

To receive a verbal report from the Data and Democracy Manager over appointing and membership to the Full Council Outside Bodies.

9. Updated Annual Governance Statement 2020-2021

Due to delays in the external audit which is outside the Council's control, the Council's External Auditors (Ernst & Young LLP) have asked that some changes be made to the

Annual Governance Statement. This is because post balance sheet items have come to light. This also includes the Crawley Homes rent issue which has been reported to the Full Council.

External Auditors nationally have failed to meet deadlines therefore, until they get the audit timetables under control, there may be a need to resubmit the Annual Governance Statement annually.

The revised Annual Governance Statement (attached as report FIN/569) will be put before the Audit Committee on 15 March 2022 for its endorsement. An update on the outcome of that Committee meeting will be provided at this meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the updated Annual Governance Statement 2020-2021.

10. Supplemental Agenda

Any urgent item(s) complying with Section 100(B) of the Local Government Act 1972.

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