

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Governance Committee held on 18 July 2017 in the Committee Room, County Hall, Lewes

PRESENT Councillors Keith Glazier (Chair)
Councillors Godfrey Daniel, David Elkin, Rupert Simmons and David Tutt

5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 JUNE 2017

5.1 RESOLVED – that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 27 June 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

6 REPORTS

6.1 A copy of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

7 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2016 - 17

7.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer regarding the Independent Auditor's report and Statement of Accounts 2016-17.

7.2 The Committee RESOLVED –

1) to note the Independent Auditor's (KPMG) report to those charged with governance on ESCC Accounts, and the Value for Money conclusion report;

2) to authorise the Chief Finance Officer to sign the formal Letter of Representation to KPMG LLP; and

3) to approve the 2016/17 Statement of Accounts for publication.

8 ASSESSMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK 2016/17

8.1 The Committee considered a report by the Monitoring Officer regarding the assessment of the Corporate Governance framework for 2016-17.

8.2 The Monitoring Officer informed the Committee that he had amended the table in Appendix 1 of the report in response to supportive comments of the Audit, Best Value and Community Services Scrutiny Committee. The table now additionally indicates a contribution to 'Practice in relation to transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability' by the following policies and processes:

- Procurement Standing Orders and Corporate Procurement Strategy;
- Code of Conduct for Employees;
- Code of conduct for Members;
- Anti Fraud & Corruption Strategy;
- Confidential Reporting (Whistle-blowing) Policy;
- Anti Money Laundering Policy;

- Financial Regulations & Standard Financial Procedures; and,
- Freedom of Information Policy.

8.3 The Committee RESOLVED –

- 1) to approve the action plan for the next year;
- 2) to note that items identified to enhance governance arrangements are reflected in Business Plans and that implementation will be monitored through the year;
- 3) to confirm that Members are satisfied with the level of assurance provided to them through this report and the Council’s governance framework and processes;
- 4) to note the amendments to Appendix 1 of the report (Local Code of Corporate Governance – key policies and processes) resulting from comments of the Audit, Best Value and Community Services Scrutiny Committee; and
- 5) to approve the Annual Governance Statement for signature by the Leader and the Chief Executive and publication within the Statement of Accounts.

9 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

9.1 The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive regarding appointments to outside bodies.

9.2 The Committee RESOLVED to appoint Councillors on the outside bodies listed below:

Organisation	No. of representatives	Members appointed
Education		
University of Sussex – Court	2	Cllrs Philip Daniel and Standley
Economic Development/Regeneration Partnerships		
Let’s Do Business	1	Cllr Martin Clarke
Sea Change	1	Cllr Simmons
Love Hastings Ltd – Board of Directors (formerly Hastings Town Centre Management Group) (15 Business reps, 1 HBC, 1 ESCC)	1	Cllr Godfrey Daniel
Wealden and Rother Renewal Partnership	1	Cllr Tidy
Hastings and Bexhill Task Force	1	Cllr Glazier
Rye Regeneration Partnership	1	Cllr Glazier

Organisation	No. of representatives	Members appointed
European Union Structural and Investment Funds South East Committee	1	Cllr Glazier
Environment		
High Weald – Joint Advisory Committee	1	Cllr Tidy
Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee	1 + substitute	Cllrs Simmons and Bennett (substitute)
Sussex Energy Saving Partnership	1	Cllr Barnes
Safer Communities Partnerships		
Eastbourne, Lewes and Wealden	1	Cllr Bennett
Hastings and Rother	1 + substitute	Cllrs Barnes and Pragnell (substitute)
Transport		
Lewes Joint Parking Board	3	Cllrs Bennett, Philip Daniel and O'Keeffe
Hastings Joint Parking Board	3	Cllrs Bennett, Godfrey Daniel and Pragnell
Other organisations		
South East Employers	3	Cllrs Elkin and Simmons