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SECTION 2 – COMMITTEES

The following shall be committees of the Council and they shall have the membership as described in the Appointments of Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels, etc (as approved by the Annual Meeting):

1. **General Purposes Committee**
2. **Audit Committee**
3. **Combined Pensions Committee and Board**
4. **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
5. **Standards Committee**
6. **Alexandra Palace and Park Board**
7. **The Licensing Committee**
8. **The Strategic Planning Committee**
9. **The Health and Wellbeing Board**
10. **Appointments Panel**
11. **Disciplinary, Grievance and Dismissal Panel**

The Terms of Reference of each Committee shall be as set out on the following pages:

1. **General Purposes Committee**

General Purposes Committee has: -

- (a) all the functions listed below in (b) and stated not to be the responsibility of the Council's Executive/Cabinet in Reg. 2 and Schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 S.I. 2853 (as amended or further amended in any statute or subordinate legislation). References to paragraphs below are to those in the appropriate Schedule of the Regulations.
 - (b) the following Schedule 1 functions:
 - (i) Paragraph C - Health and Safety at Work; all functions discharged otherwise than in the Council's capacity as employer.
 - (ii) Paragraph D – Elections; all functions relating to Elections except
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the approval of pilot schemes for local elections which is reserved to full Council.

- (iii) Paragraph I – Miscellaneous; all functions except those retained by full Council in Article 4 or reserved for the Appointments Panel and Disciplinary, Grievance and Dismissal Panel. The Committee’s functions include:
 - (iv) All functions relating to public rights of way in Part 1 except the creation, stopping up and diversion of highways, footpaths and bridleways in connection with development control decisions which are delegated to the Planning Sub-Committee;
 - v) Authorising the making of payments or the provision of other benefits in cases of maladministration;
- c) The following “Local Choice” functions set out in Schedule 2 of the above Regulations: -
- (i) any function under a local Act other than a function specified or referred to in Reg. 2 or Schedule 1 or expressly delegated elsewhere in this Constitution;
 - (ii) the determination of an appeal against any decision made by or on behalf of the authority;
 - (iii) passing a resolution that Schedule 2 to the Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993 should apply to the Council’s area (consent to the operation of loudspeakers).
- d) making orders designating public places in order to confer power on the police to prevent nuisance by the consumption of alcohol.

Staffing Functions

- e) To exercise the functions which are stated not to be the responsibility of the Executive in Regulation 2 and Schedule 1 paragraphs H and I of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) and in any Statute or subordinate legislation further amending these Regulations as follows:
- f) Paragraph H – Pensions; Determining the Council’s policy statement of discretions as “Employing Authority” under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and the Teachers’ Pension Regulations 2010
- g) Paragraph I – Miscellaneous; Determining the terms and conditions of service for all staff, including procedures for dismissal. The Committee agrees the terms and conditions of employment, and the pay structure for

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all posts with the exception of pay and other terms and conditions for teachers which are fixed under statute by the Schoolteachers' Pay and Conditions Documents.

- h) To approve the remuneration levels (other than those associated with National Pay Awards) for the Head of Paid Service and Directors.
- i) To approve procedures for appointment and dismissal of staff.
- j) To approve all human resources policies including pay and grading structures, and changes to employees' terms and conditions of employment and to approve policies on how the Council exercises its functions under the Local Government Pension Scheme and the Teachers' Pension Scheme.
- (k) the power to make recommendations to the Council on any of its functions set out in Article 4, and the power to establish Sub-Committees to consider and report on any such functions but this does not include recommendations to amend the Council's Constitution nor does it prevent the Council from making decisions on any matter when necessary without a prior recommendation from the Committee.

2. Audit Committee

Statement of purpose

The Committee's purpose is to provide an independent and high-level focus on the adequacy of governance, risk and control arrangements. Its role in ensuring there is sufficient assurance over governance, risk and control gives greater confidence to all those charged with governance that those arrangements are effective.

The Committee has oversight of both internal and external audit, together with the financial and governance reports, helping to ensure there are adequate arrangements in place for both internal challenge and public accountability.

Governance, risk and control

- (a) To review the council's corporate governance arrangements against the good governance framework, including the ethical framework, and consider the local code of governance.
- (b) To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management in the council.
- (c) To monitor progress in addressing risk-related issues reported to the committee.
- (d) To consider reports on the effectiveness of internal controls and monitor the implementation of agreed actions.

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- (e) To consider reports on the effectiveness of financial management arrangements, including compliance with CIPFA's Financial Management Code.
- (f) To consider the council's arrangements to secure value for money and review assurances and assessments on the effectiveness of these arrangements.
- (g) To review the assessment of fraud risks and potential harm to the council from fraud and corruption.
- (h) To monitor the counter fraud strategy, actions and resources.
- (i) To review the governance and assurance arrangements for significant partnerships or collaborations.

Governance reporting

- (j) To review the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) prior to approval and consider whether it properly reflects the risk environment and supporting assurances, including the head of internal audit's annual opinion.
- (k) To consider whether the annual evaluation for the AGS fairly concludes that governance arrangements are fit for purpose, supporting the achievement of the authority's objectives.

Financial reporting

- l) To monitor the arrangements and preparations for financial reporting to ensure that statutory requirements and professional standards can be met.
- m) To review the annual statement of accounts. Specifically, to consider whether appropriate accounting policies have been followed and whether there are concerns arising from the financial statements or from the audit that need to be brought to the attention of the council.
- n) To consider the external auditor's report to those charged with governance on issues arising from the audit of the accounts.

Arrangements for audit and assurance

- o) To consider the council's framework of assurance and ensure that it adequately addresses the risks and priorities of the council.

External audit

- p) To support the independence of external audit through consideration of the external auditor's annual assessment of its independence and review of any issues raised by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) or the authority's auditor panel as appropriate.
- q) To consider the external auditor's annual letter, relevant reports and the report to those charged with governance.
- r) To consider specific reports as agreed with the external auditor.
- s) To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money.
- t) To consider additional commissions of work from external audit.
- u) To advise and recommend on the effectiveness of relationships between external and internal audit and other inspection agencies or relevant

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bodies.

- v) To provide free and unfettered access to the audit committee chair for the auditors, including the opportunity for a private meeting with the committee.

Internal audit

- w) To approve the internal audit charter.
- x) To review proposals made in relation to the appointment of external providers of internal audit services and to make recommendations.
- y) To approve the risk-based internal audit plan, including internal audit's resource requirements, the approach to using other sources of assurance and any work required to place reliance upon those other sources.
- z) To approve significant interim changes to the risk-based internal audit plan and resource requirements.
- A1) To make appropriate enquiries of both management and the head of internal audit to determine if there are any inappropriate scope or resource limitations.
- A2) To consider any impairments to the independence or objectivity of the head of internal audit arising from additional roles or responsibilities outside of internal auditing and to approve and periodically review safeguards to limit such impairments.
- A3) To consider reports from the head of internal audit on internal audit's performance during the year, including the performance of external providers of internal audit services. These will include:
 - A4) updates on the work of internal audit, including key findings, issues of concern and action in hand as a result of internal audit work;
 - A5) regular reports on the results of the QAIP; and
 - A6) reports on instances where the internal audit function does not conform to the PSIAS and LGAN, considering whether the non-conformance is significant enough that it must be included in the AGS.
- A7) To consider the head of internal audit's annual report, including:
 - the statement of the level of conformance with the PSIAS and LGAN and the results of the QAIP that support the statement (these will indicate the reliability of the conclusions of internal audit); and
 - the opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the council's framework of governance, risk management and control, together with the summary of the work supporting the opinion (these will assist the committee in reviewing the AGS).
- A8) To consider summaries of specific internal audit reports as requested.
- A9) To receive reports outlining the action taken where the head of internal audit has concluded that management has accepted a level of risk that may be unacceptable to the authority or there are concerns about progress with the implementation of agreed actions.
- A10) To contribute to the QAIP and in particular to the external quality assessment of internal audit that takes place at least once every five years.
- A11) To consider a report on the effectiveness of internal audit to support the AGS where required to do so by the accounts and audit regulations.
- A12) To provide free and unfettered access to the audit committee chair for the

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head of internal audit, including the opportunity for a private meeting with the committee.

Treasury Management

A13) Reviewing and monitoring treasury management arrangements in accordance with Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes (CIPFA, 2017).

Accountability arrangements

A14) To report to those charged with governance on the committee's findings, conclusions and recommendations concerning the adequacy and effectiveness of their governance, risk management and internal control frameworks, financial reporting arrangements and internal and external audit functions.

A15) To report to full council on a regular basis on the committee's performance in relation to the terms of reference and the effectiveness of the committee in meeting its purpose.

A16) To publish an annual report on the work of the committee, including a conclusion on the compliance with the CIPFA Position Statement.

Advisers to the Committee

A17) The Committee would be supported in its role and responsibilities through the appointment of two independent advisers, who are appropriately qualified.

A18) It is for individual Committee members to be satisfied that they have the appropriate degree of knowledge and understanding to enable them to properly exercise their functions.

A19) The Council will provide a training programme, which all Committee members must attend. Training undertaken will be reported at each meeting.

Other legislative powers include:

A20) Making arrangements for proper administration of financial affairs under section 151 Local Government Act 1972 but the appointment or dismissal of the Chief Finance Officer is to be in accordance with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in Part 4;

A21) The power to make recommendations to the Council on any of its functions set out in Article 4.

10. Appointments Panel

Be the appropriate body to fulfil the Employment Procedure Rules as set out

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in Part 4 Section K in relation to Appointments.

- a) To exercise functions in respect of the appointment of the Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring officer and Directors in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001.
- b) To make recommendations to Council on the appointment of the Head of the Paid Service; and the appointment of the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001.
- c) That only members of this Panel participating in the Shortlisting, Interview and Appointment of Directors will have access to decision making reports and Appointments meeting.
- d) The substantive membership would be Leader of the Council(Chair) Cabinet Member responsible for Human Resources, Chair of General Purposes,(Vice Chair) Member of General Purposes Committee and Member of the Opposition. The substitution rules will still apply to this Panel and Cabinet Members will be able to substitute and vote on appointments concerning their portfolio area. The quorum of the Committee shall be a minimum of three members.
- e) The minutes of the Panel would be received by the General Purposes Committee, in keeping with their responsibility and oversight for staffing functions of the Council.

11.Disciplinary, Grievance and Dismissal Panel

Be the appropriate body to fulfil the employment procedure rules as set out in Part 4 Section K in relation to Disciplinary, Grievance and Dismissals.

- a) Disciplinary, conduct and capability decisions relating to the Head of Paid Service, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer, and determining whether these officers should be suspended in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001.
- b) Hearing and deciding substantive grievances either about or from the Head of Paid Service. The Monitoring Officer will decide whether or not the grievance is substantive.
- c) To exercise functions in respect of the Dismissal (including terms of release) of Directors in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 including conducting case hearings and making decisions in relation to Directors where dismissal of the officer is a possible outcome, noting that as set out in the Employment

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procedure rules in section K, the need to consider the views of an independent Panel when considering the dismissal of the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.

- d) To make recommendations to Council on the dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service; and the dismissal of the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001.
- e) To consider and approve any remuneration or severance payments to Officers of £100,000 or more, in accordance with guidance issued under section 40 of the Localism Act 2011 and with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001.
- f) To approve the early/flexible retirement of the Head of Paid Service, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer and Directors (save where the Officer is simply resigning) and to agree the award of any discretionary payments in connection with such retirement or redundancy.

To exercise functions in respect of the following:

h) Grievance decisions related to Director level direct reports of the Head of Paid Service, if (and only if) referred to the Committee by the Head of Paid Service due to a conflict-of-interest issue.

To note:

i) That only members of this Panel participating in the hearings and subsequent Panel meeting will have access to decision making reports and have a right to attend the hearing/meeting.

j) Cabinet Members with a conflict will not participate in any of the decisions above.

k) To note that Independent persons would be involved in the investigation of a case against a statutory officer and dismissal hearing.

l) The substantive membership would be Leader of the Council (Chair) Cabinet Member responsible for Human Resources, Chair of General Purposes, (Vice Chair) Member of General Purposes Committee and Member of the Opposition. The substitution rules will still apply to this Panel and Cabinet Members will be able to substitute unless there is a conflict. The quorum of the Committee shall be a minimum of three members.

m) The minutes of the Panel would be received by the General Purposes Committee, in keeping with their responsibility and oversight

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for staffing functions of the Council.

SECTION 3 - SUB-COMMITTEES AND PANELS

The following bodies shall be created as Sub-Committees of the relevant Committee of the Council under which they are listed. Bodies described as "Panels" are Sub-Committees unless otherwise stated. Sub-Committees shall report to their parent bodies and they shall have the membership as described in the Appointments of Non-Executive Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels, etc as approved by the Annual Meeting.

1. Under the General Purposes Committee

1.1 Dismissal Appeals Sub Committee

To hear and determine appeals against dismissal from employment in respect of all staff employed by the Council, save where the continued employment of the employee would contravene the law and subject to the limitation that the Sub-Committee will hear and determine appeals resulting from posts becoming redundant only where these affect Directors. Members who sit on this Committee must not have had any prior involvement in any decision upon which the appeal is made. Different arrangements apply for the Head of Paid Service, Chief Officer, and Monitoring Officer.