



**Resources Department  
Town Hall, Upper Street, London, N1 2UD**

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## **AGENDA FOR THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE (ADVISORY)**

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Members of the Audit Committee and Audit Committee (Advisory) are summoned to a virtual meeting to be held by Zoom on **13 August 2020 at 6.30 pm.**

**Linzi Roberts-Egan  
Chief Executive**

**Link to the meeting: <https://weareislington.zoom.us/j/99721937601>**

Enquiries to : Mary Green  
Tel : 020 7527 3005  
E-mail : [democracy@islington.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@islington.gov.uk)  
Despatched : 5 August 2020

### Membership

Councillor Nick Wayne (Chair)  
Councillor Sue Lukes (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Anjna Khurana  
Councillor Andy Hull  
Alan Begg (Independent member)  
Nick Whitaker (Independent member)

### Substitute Members

Councillor Vivien Cutler  
Councillor Mouna Hamitouche MBE  
Councillor Sara Hyde  
Councillor Flora Williamson

**Quorum: is 3 Councillors**



## A. Formal Matters

Page

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declaration of substitute members
3. Declarations of interest

If you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest\*** in an item of business:

- if it is not yet on the council's register, you **must** declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent;
- you may **choose** to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is already in the register in the interests of openness and transparency.

In both the above cases, you **must** leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If you have a **personal** interest in an item of business **and** you intend to speak or vote on the item you **must** declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent but you **may** participate in the discussion and vote on the item.

**\*(a) Employment, etc** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

**(b) Sponsorship** - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of your expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of your election; including from a trade union.

**(c) Contracts** - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between you or your partner (or a body in which one of you has a beneficial interest) and the council.

**(d) Land** - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.

**(e) Licences**- Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.

**(f) Corporate tenancies** - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest.

**(g) Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

This applies to **all** members present at the meeting.

## B. Items for Decision

1. Outcome of external investigation and action plan: Traffic and Parking

1 - 4

2. Whistleblowing complaints - Outcome of external investigation and action plan 5 - 8

**C. Urgent non-exempt items**

Any non-exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

**D. Exclusion of press and public**

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the remaining item on the agenda, it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt or confidential information within the terms of the Access to Information procedure rules in the Constitution and, if so, whether to exclude the press and public during discussion thereof.

**E. Confidential/exempt items**

1. Outcome of external investigation and action plan: Traffic and Parking - exempt appendices 9 - 12
2. Whistleblowing complaints - Outcome of external investigation and action plan - exempt appendices 13 - 24

**F. Urgent exempt items (if any)**

Any exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

The next ordinary meeting of the Audit Committee and Audit Committee (Advisory) will be on 29 September 2020

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**Report of: Monitoring Officer**

<b>Meeting of:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Ward(s):</b>
Audit Committee	13 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	N/A

<b>Delete as appropriate</b>	Exempt	Non-exempt
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**THE APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

The appendices to this report are not for publication because they contain exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

**SUBJECT: OUTCOME OF EXTERNAL INVESTIGATION AND ACTION PLAN: TRAFFIC AND PARKING**

**1. Synopsis**

- 1.1 A series of whistleblowing complaints were received and Audit Committee on 3 June 2019 approved the appointment of external investigators to conduct an independent investigation and to produce reports.
- 1.2. The outcome of the investigation was presented to Committee at the meeting of 28 January 2020.
- 1.3 The purpose of this further report is to present to Committee an action plan drafted in the light of certain recommendations made in the course of the external investigation process.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 To approve the action plan arising from the Report as set out at Appendix 1.

**3. Background**

- 3.1 Whistleblowing arrangements are a key element of the Council's overall governance arrangements. Whistleblowing allows employees, members, contractors and others to raise concerns in confidence in relation to wrongdoing.
- 3.2 The Council takes all allegations of impropriety very seriously and in this instance appointed an external investigator to ensure that an independent investigation was undertaken.

#### **4. Implications**

##### **4.1. Financial implications**

There are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

##### **4.2. Legal Implications**

There are no specific legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

##### **4.3. Environmental implications and contribution to a Net Zero Carbon Islington by 2030.**

There are no known environmental implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

##### **4.4. Resident Impact Assessment**

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

An initial assessment has been undertaken and it has been determined that a full Resident Impact Assessment is not required because the decision currently being sought does not have direct impacts on residents.

#### **5. Reason for recommendations**

- 5.1 To approve the action plan drafted in the light of certain recommendations made in the course of the external investigation process at Appendix 1.

#### **Appendices**

Exempt Appendix 1 – Action Plan

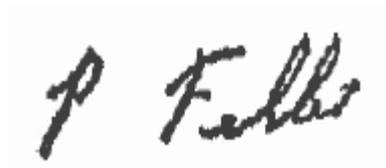
Exempt Appendix 2 – HR Matters: Main Recommendations by Juliana Iwobi

Exempt Appendix 3 – HR Matters: Findings and Recommendations (Full Report) by Juliana Iwobi

Exempt Appendix 4 – Traffic and Parking Whistleblowing Report

Final report clearance:

**Signed by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P Fehler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Monitoring Officer

Date: 4 August 2020

Report Author: Peter Fehler, Acting Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

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## Report of: Monitoring Officer

<b>Meeting of:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Ward(s):</b>
Audit Committee	13 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	N/A

<b>Delete as appropriate</b>	<b>Exempt</b>	<b>Non-exempt</b>

## **THE APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

The appendices to this report are not for publication because they contain exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

## **SUBJECT: OUTCOME OF EXTERNAL INVESTIGATION AND ACTION PLAN**

### **1. Synopsis**

- 1.1 A series of whistleblowing complaints were received in November 2018, and Audit Committee on 15 January 2019 approved the appointment of external investigators to conduct an independent investigation and to produce a report.
- 1.2 This report presents the outcome of the investigation.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report and exempt Appendix 1.
- 2.2 To approve the action plan attached as exempt Appendix 2.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 Whistleblowing arrangements are a key element of the Council's overall governance arrangements. Whistleblowing allows employees, members, contractors and others, to raise in confidence concerns in relation to wrongdoing.
- 3.2 The Council takes all allegations of impropriety very seriously and in this instance appointed an external investigator to ensure that an independent investigation was undertaken.

#### **4. Implications**

##### **4.1 Financial implications**

There are no significant financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

##### **4.2 Legal Implications**

There are no specific legal implications arising from the recommendations in this this report.

##### **4.3 Environmental implications and contribution to a Net Zero Carbon Islington by 2030.**

There are no known environmental implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

##### **4.4 Resident Impact Assessment**

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

An initial assessment has been undertaken and it has been determined that a full Resident Impact Assessment is not required because the decision currently being sought does not have direct impacts on residents.

#### **5. Reason for recommendations**

- 5.1 To note outcome of the external investigation detailed in Exempt Appendix 1 and to approve the action plan arising from those outcomes detailed in Exempt Appendix 2.

## **Appendices**

Exempt Appendix 1 – Outcome of external Investigation Report

Exempt Appendix 2 – Action Plan

Exempt Appendix 3 – Whistleblowing Report

Final report clearance:

### **Signed by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Fehler', is enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Monitoring Officer

Date: 04 August 2020

Report Author: Peter Fehler, Acting Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

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