

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ

**This meeting
may be filmed.***



**Central
Bedfordshire**

please ask for Leslie Manning
direct line 0300 300 5132
date 19 March 2015

NOTICE OF MEETING

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date & Time

Monday, 30 March 2015 10.00 a.m.

Venue at

Room 15, Priory House, Chicksands, Shefford

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of the AUDIT COMMITTEE:

Cllrs M C Blair (Chairman), D Bowater (Vice-Chairman), R D Berry,
K M Collins, N B Costin, D J Lawrence and A Zerny

[Named Substitutes:

Mrs J G Lawrence, A Shadbolt, N J Sheppard and I Shingler]

All other Members of the Council - on request

***MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS
MEETING***

***Please note that phones and other equipment may be used to film, audio record, tweet or blog from this meeting. No part of the meeting room is exempt from public filming.**

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AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitute Members.

2. **Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 12 January 2015 (copy attached).

3. **Members' Interests**

To receive from Members any declarations of interest.

4. **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman and any matters of communication.

5. **Petitions**

To receive petitions from members of the public in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure set out in Annex 2 of Part A4 of the Constitution.

6. **Questions, Statements or Deputations**

To receive any questions, statements or deputations from members of the public in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure as set out in Annex 1 of Part A4 of the Constitution.

Reports

Item	Subject	Page Nos.
7.	Audit Plan 2014/15	* 25 - 50

To consider a report by Ernst & Young LLP which provides the basis for the Audit Committee to review the company's proposed audit approach and scope for the 2014/15 audit. The Audit Plan summarises Ernst & Young's assessment of the key risks which drive the development of an effective audit for the Council and outlines the company's planned audit strategy in response to those risks.

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| 8. | External Audit Progress Report | * 51 - 82 |
| | To consider a report from Ernst & Young LLP which provides an update on the progress made by the company since the last meeting of the Audit Committee in carrying out the Council's audit. The report also includes two briefing documents on issues which might have an impact on the Council, the local government sector and the audits undertaken by Ernst & Young. | |
| 9. | Implementation of a Risk Based Verification (RBV) Policy for Housing Benefit and Local Council Tax Support Assessments | * 83 - 96 |
| | To consider a report advising Members of the new approach to verifying claims for Housing Benefit and Local Council Tax Support and to seek approval of a Risk Based Verification Policy. | |
| 10. | 2015/16 Internal Audit Plan | * 97 - 112 |
| | To consider a report which presents the 2015/16 Internal Audit Plan for review and approval. | |
| 11. | Internal Audit Progress Report | * 113 - 122 |
| | To consider an update on the progress of work by Internal Audit for 2014/15. | |
| 12. | Risk Update Report | * 123 - 128 |
| | To consider an overview of the Council's risk position as at March 2015. | |
| 13. | Tracking of Internal Audit Recommendations | * 129 - 140 |
| | To consider a summary of high priority recommendations arising from the Internal Audit reports together with the progress made in their implementation. | |
| 14. | Work Programme | * 141 - 144 |
| | To consider the Audit Committee's work programme. | |

Exempt Appendix

<i>Item</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Exempt Para.</i>	<i>Page Nos.</i>
15.	Implementation of a Risk Based Verification (RBV) Policy for Housing Benefit and Local Council Tax Support Assessments	* 7	145 - 150

To receive the exempt appendix.