



Audit and Governance Board

Wednesday, 25 September 2024 at
6.30 p.m.
Municipal Building, Widnes

S. Young

Chief Executive

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Rob Polhill (Chair)	Labour
Councillor Andrea Wall (Vice-Chair)	Labour
Councillor John Abbott	Labour
Councillor Victoria Begg	Labour
Councillor Neil Connolly	Labour
Councillor Eddie Dourley	Labour
Councillor Robert Gilligan	Labour
Councillor Tony McDermott	Labour
Councillor Norman Plumpton Walsh	Labour
Councillor Margaret Ratcliffe	Liberal Democrats
Councillor Pamela Wallace	Labour

Please contact Gill Ferguson on 0151 511 8059 or e-mail gill.ferguson@halton.gov.uk for further information.

The next meeting of the Board is on Wednesday, 20 November 2024

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.	Page No.
1. MINUTES	1 - 5
2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
<p>Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion or voting on the item.</p>	
3. INTERNAL AUDIT PEER REVIEW	6 - 26
4. EXTERNAL AUDIT FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY LETTER	27 - 32
5. ANTI FRAUD AND CORRUPTION UPDATE	33 - 74
6. 2023/24 EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S ANNUAL REPORT	75 - 126
7. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023-24	127 - 151
8. 2023/24 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT AND LETTER OF REPRESENTATION	152 - 357
9. SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985	

PART II

In this case the Board has a discretion to exclude the press and public and, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, it is **RECOMMENDED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having been satisfied that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

10. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT	358 - 459
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In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.