

MINUTES of a meeting of the AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville on WEDNESDAY, 27 JUNE 2012

Present: Independent Members Mr J Wheeler and Mrs S Williams.

District Councillors: J Cotterill, D De Lacy, C Large and R Woodward.

Parish Councillors: S Peace and P Thomas.

Officers: Mr R Bowmer, Mr D Gill, Mrs C Hammond and Miss A Wright.

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN TO THIS MEETING**

The Deputy Monitoring Officer opened the meeting and advised the Committee that both the Chairman and Deputy Chairman had tendered their apologies for the meeting and sought nominations for a Chairman for this meeting.

RESOLVED THAT:

Mrs Sylvia Williams be appointed Chairman for the meeting.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from District Councillor G Allman, Parish Councillor C Andrews, Mr J Betteridge, Mr D Knight and Mr D Lakin.

**3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of Interest.

**4. MINUTES**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2012.

Councillor Peace requested that minute number 37 be amended to read 'He asked that the Council takes responsibility to ensure that people who are entitled to benefits claim for all that they are entitled to and cut errors to zero.

RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the amendment of the comment made by Councillor Peace.

**5. LOCALISM ACT 2011 AND THE IMPACT OF CHANGES TO AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Monitoring Officer presented the report to Members.

Following a question from a Member, the Deputy Monitoring Officer advised the Committee that the draft legislation that the Council received constantly changed right up to the report being considered by Council the night before and that the information that had been sent out to members of the Committee at an earlier stage was now different. He assured Members of the Committee that a letter would be sent to all members advising them of the roles of the Audit and Governance Committee.

Chairman's initials

RESOLVED THAT;

That the information be noted.

**6. STANDARDS AND ETHICS – QUARTER 4 REPORT**

The Deputy Monitoring Officer presented the report to Members.

RESOLVED THAT:

The report be received and noted.

**7. COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

The Deputy Monitoring Officer advised the Members that the work programme would be for the new Audit and Governance Committee to consider.

RESOLVED THAT:

The Committee Work Plan be noted.

**8. ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2011/12**

The Senior Auditor presented the 2011/12 Annual Internal Audit report to Members in compliance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Code of Practice. The report included the Internal Audit opinion that the Council's overall internal control arrangements provide adequate assurance

Following a question from a member The Senior Auditor advised the Committee that every effort is made to ensure that audit recommendations are monitored to ensure that they are implemented.

RESOLVED THAT:

The report be noted.

**9. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT - APRIL 2012 – MAY 2012**

The Senior Auditor presented the report to Members. She advised members that the five outstanding recommendations were currently being actioned.

RESOLVED THAT:

The report be noted.

**10. REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL AUDIT**

The Head of Finance presented the report to Members.

RESOLVED THAT:

The Internal Audit Self Assessment of The Effectiveness of Internal Audit for 2011/12 be accepted.

Chairman's initials

**11. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2011/12**

The Head of Finance presented the report which was approved by Cabinet on 22 May 2012 to the Committee to scrutinise in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy.

RESOLVED THAT:

The report be approved.

Before closing the meeting the Chairman took the opportunity to thank all the staff for their hard work and support to all the Independent Members during their time on the Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.05pm.

Mr D Gill left the meeting at 6.50pm

Chairman's initials