

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Audit Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 1400 hours.

### **PRESENT:-**

Members:-

Councillor D. McGregor in the Chair

Councillors J.A. Clifton, S.W. Fritchley, K. Reid and A.M. Syrett.

Officers:-

D. Clarke (Joint Head of Finance and Resources), J. Williams (Internal Audit Consortium Manager) and A. Brownsword (Senior Governance Officer)

### **0823. APOLOGY**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M. Dooley.

### **0824. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

The Chairman consented to consider an update from KPMG under Agenda Item No. 5 – Report of the External Auditor (KPMG)

### **0825. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **0826. MINUTES – 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018**

Moved by Councillor S.W. Fritchley and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett  
**RESOLVED** that the minutes of a meeting of the Audit Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 be approved as a true and correct record.

### **0827. REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Joint Head of Finance and Resources read out a statement from the External Auditor at KPMG which informed Committee that the review into the governance of the departure of the two Executive Directors had been completed and that no significant concerns in relation to the process followed had required the use of reporting powers under the Code.

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Some aspects which could be developed for future had been identified and these would be communicated to the Chief Executive Officer by letter.

Moved by Councillor D. McGregor and seconded by Councillor S.W. Fritchley  
**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**0828. REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM  
SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ON THE 2017/18 INTERNAL AUDIT  
PLAN**

The Internal Audit Consortium Manager presented the report which gave information on progress made by the Audit Consortium in relation to the 2017/18 Internal Audit Plan. The report also included a summary of Internal Audit reports issued from 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018 to 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018. No fraud issues had been identified in respect of the areas reviewed.

Moved by Councillor K. Reid and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett  
**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**0829. REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM  
INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM 2017/18 ANNUAL REPORT TO  
BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The Internal Audit Consortium Manager presented the report which gave a summary of the internal work undertaken during 2017/18 and gave an opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's control environment. The report also drew attention to any issues that needed to be considered for inclusion in the Annual Governance Statement. 30 reports had been issued in the year with 93% of reports achieving substantial or reasonable assurance.

Moved by Councillor S.W. Fritchley and seconded by Councillor D. McGregor  
**RESOLVED** that the Internal Audit Consortium Annual Report for 2017/18 be noted.

**\*0830. REPORT OF THE JOINT HEAD OF FINANCE AND RESOURCES  
STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER AND PARTNERSHIP  
ARRANGEMENTS**

The Joint Head of Finance and Resources presented the report which looked at the proposed Strategic Risk Register which was to be discussed at the meeting of the Executive on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018. It was noted that there were 2 additions of the Local Plan and Safeguarding.

Members asked questions regarding the use of agency staff and it was noted that the use of agency staff was always as a last resort to maintain service delivery or to cover gaps between recruitment. A list of occurrences could be provided to Members.

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Moved by Councillor D. McGregor and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett  
**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**0831.                   REPORT OF THE JOINT HEAD OF FINANCE AND  
RESOURCES  
ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2017/18**

The Joint Head of Finance and Resources presented the report which sought agreement to the conclusions and content of the Annual Governance Statement which would be included within the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2017/18.

The report also reviewed the Local Code of Corporate Governance and was designed to increase awareness of Governance Issues amongst Members and Employees of the Council.

It was noted that issues regarding marginal audit reports had been addressed and that none had been issued in 2017/18. The final accounts were no longer considered a risk and had been removed from the statement.

Moved by Councillor D. McGregor and seconded by Councillor A.M. Syrett  
**RESOLVED** that (1) the Audit Committee consider the draft Annual Governance Statement as set out in Appendix 1 and make any observations or recommendations which they consider to be appropriate prior to the final version being incorporated within the Council's Statement of Accounts,

(2) the Audit Committee approve the local Code of Corporate Governance as set out in Appendix 2 of the report,

(3) the Audit Committee having reviewed the effectiveness of the Governance Framework are satisfied that the Council's governance and internal control arrangements are fit for purpose.

(Joint Head of Finance and Resources

The Chairman thanked Members for their attendance and thanked the Joint Head of Finance and Resources, Senior Governance Officer and Internal Audit for their hard work and noted that the Council should be proud of its staff.

The meeting concluded at 1426 hours.