

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee (to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Monday, 27 June 2016

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor Miss T G Harper (Chairman)

Councillor P J Davies (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: F Birkett, J E Butts, S Cunningham, Mrs T L Ellis and S D Martin

**Also
Present:**



1. APOLOGIES

An apology of absence was received from Councillor Mrs M Brady.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that:-

(a) the minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee held on the 14 March 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record; and

(b) the minutes from the Audit and Governance Standards Sub-Committee held on the 13 April 2016 be received.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements made at this meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

In accordance with the Standing Orders and the Council's Code of Conduct, Councillor S D Martin, declared a non-pecuniary interest for minute item 8 – External Auditors Audit Plan 2015/16 and fee 2016/17 as he works alongside Ernst and Young through his job.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

MATTERS CONSIDERED FOR CONFIRMATION

6. FRAUD & CORRUPTION SANCTIONS AND REDRESS POLICY & ANTI-FRAUD POLICY

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on revisions that have been made to the Councils Fraud & Corruption Sanctions and Redress Policy & Anti-Fraud Policy.

The Head of Finance and Audit addressed the Committee to inform them that the recommendation in the report is incorrect and should read;

That the Committee:-

(a) approve the revised Fraud and Corruption Sanctions and Redress Policy as set out in Appendix A of the report; and

(b) recommend to Council the adoption of the revised Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy.

RESOLVED that the Committee:-

- (a) approve the revised Fraud and Corruption Sanctions and Redress Policy as set out in Appendix A of the report; and
- (b) recommend to Council the adoption of the revised Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy.

DECISIONS MADE UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

7. TERMS OF REFERENCE - VERBAL REPORT

The Committee received a verbal report from the Head of Finance and Audit on the Audit and Governance Committees Terms of Reference and an overview of the Committee's responsibilities throughout the municipal year.

RESOLVED that the Committee note the verbal report.

8. EXTERNAL AUDITORS AUDIT PLAN 2015/16 AND FEE 2016/17

Councillor S D Martin, declared a non-pecuniary interest as he works alongside Ernst and Young through his job.

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on the External Auditors Audit Plan 2015/16 and Fee 2016/17.

RESOLVED that the Committee approve:-

- (a) the External Auditors Audit Plan 2015/16, as set out in Appendix A of the report; and
- (b) the External Auditors proposed fees, as set out in Appendix B of the report.

9. COUNTER FRAUD PROGRESS

The Committee considered a progress report by the Head of Finance and Audit on Counter Fraud arrangements.

RESOLVED that the Committee;

- a) note the content of the report; and
- b) approve the recommendation that the report be changed to an annual report.

10. HEAD OF AUDIT'S ANNUAL OPINION 2015/16

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Finance and Audit containing the Head of Audit's Annual Opinion for 2015/16.

There was some discussion on the measure concerning the number of final reports finalised at the time of the annual opinion, as in Table 3, page 76. The Head of Finance and Audit confirmed that this is something that they are working on to provide more consistency.

RESOLVED that the Committee note the content of the report.

11. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2015/16

The Committee received a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on the Annual Governance Statement for 2015/16.

RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement 2015/16, as set out in Appendix C of the report, be approved.

12. QUARTERLY AUDIT REPORTS

The Committee received a progress report by the Head of Finance and Audit which gave an update on the work of the internal audit team.

The Head of Finance and Audit also provided a brief presentation on results of the Ethics Audit work in 2015/16.

RESOLVED that the Committee note the progress and findings that have arisen from the Internal Audit work.

13. AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received a report from the Head of Finance and Audit on the Audit and Governance Committee Work Programme.

RESOLVED that the Audit and Governance Committee Work Programme, be approved.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 7.35 pm).