
MINUTES

Meeting: **Audit Resources & Performance Committee**

Date: Friday 6 November 2015 at 10.00 am

Venue: The Board Room, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell

Chair: Cllr A McCloy

Present: Cllr C Furness, Mrs P Anderson, Mrs F Beatty, Cllr D Greenhalgh,
Mr Z Hamid, Ms S Leckie, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr Mrs L C Roberts,
Mrs E Sayer, Cllr F J Walton and Cllr D Williams

Mr P Ancell and Cllr D Chapman attended to observe and speak but not vote.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Mrs G Heath, Cllr S Marshall-Clarke and Cllr Mrs N Turner.

61/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2015

The minutes of the last meeting of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee held on 18 September 2015 were approved as a correct record subject to the following amendment:

On page 4 of the minutes delete the comment included in error immediately before Minute No 55/15.

62/15 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair reported that there were no items of urgent business to consider.

63/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was noted that there were no public speakers.

64/15 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 6

Cllr C Furness, Cllr A McCloy and Cllr Mrs L Roberts had all received correspondence from Dr P Owens and Cllr Mrs K Potter.

65/15 LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINT (C355/JRS)

The Chair reported that he had discussed this item with the Chair of the Authority and the Chair of Planning regarding whether or not the item should be referred to the full

Authority. However they had agreed that the item should be considered by the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee for scrutiny and accountability reasons. A report on the issues raised in the Ombudsman's decision will be made to the Planning Committee.

The Chair also reported that following further discussions it was felt that a micro scrutiny review of the issues raised and lessons learnt to minimise future risk may be appropriate.

The Director of Conservation and Planning introduced the report and explained the background to the complaint.

The Chair of the Planning Committee stated that he was concerned about the complaint decision and was happy for a report to be made to the Planning Committee regarding lessons learnt and mitigation of future risk. He also welcomed a micro scrutiny review of the issues but it should be simple and short and consider the following issues:

- Practicalities and process of consulting
- Judging impact of developments on neighbours.

The recommendation and the proposal for a micro scrutiny review of the issues was moved.

It was agreed that the micro scrutiny review panel should include Members from both the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee and the Planning Committee.

In response to Members' queries it was noted that an apology had been sent to the Complainant as requested by the Ombudsman and that officers had been briefed on lessons learnt from the complaint.

The motion for the recommendation set out in the report and the proposed micro scrutiny review were seconded, voted on and carried. The Members of the micro scrutiny review panel were agreed as Chair and Vice Chair of Audit, Resources and Performance Committee, Mrs E Sayer, Chair of Planning Committee and one other Member of the Planning Committee to be identified by the Chair of Planning Committee.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To authorise arrangements to pay the diminution in value of a complainant's property following the 'before' and 'after' valuation of £35,000 in settlement of a Local Government Ombudsman case.**
- 2. To appoint a Micro Scrutiny Review Panel to consider the lessons learnt from the complaint.**
- 3. The following Members were appointed to the Micro Scrutiny Review Panel:
Chair of Audit, Resources and Performance Committee – Cllr A McCloy
Vice Chair of Audit, Resources and Performance Committee – Cllr C Furness
Mrs E Sayer
Chair of Planning Committee – Mr P Ancell
One other Member of the Planning Committee to be identified by the Chair of Planning Committee.**
- 4. That attendance at Micro Scrutiny Review Panel meetings be approved duties for the payment of travel and subsistence allowances.**

John Cornett, the Authority's new representative from KPMG External Auditors, was present at the meeting and introduced himself and the Annual Audit Letter 2014/15.

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That the 2014/15 Annual Audit Letter be considered and acknowledged.

67/15 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT BLOCK 1 2015/16 (A1362/7/PN)

Ian Morton, the Authority's representative from Veritau Internal Auditors, was present at the meeting and introduced the report on the recommendations for the first block of the 2015/16 audit and the agreed actions for consideration.

Cllr D Greenhalgh and Cllr D Williams both declared personal interests in this report as reference was made to the payroll service provided to the Authority by Derbyshire County Council and they were both members of Derbyshire County Council.

In response to Members' queries it was noted that discussions would be held with Derbyshire County Council regarding the contract for provision of the payroll service.

The recommendations as set out in the report were moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That the internal audit reports for three of the four areas covered under Block 1 for 2015/16 be received (in Appendices 1 – 3 of the report) and the agreed actions considered.
2. That the amendments to the Fraud Awareness and Whistleblowing Policy recommended in Appendix 3 of the audit report be approved.

68/15 2015/16 QUARTER 2 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT (A91941/WA)

An amended copy of Appendix 1.1 had been tabled as the colour of the original version had not printed correctly.

In considering Appendix 1.2 Members expressed concern that in Cornerstone C3, Focus C3a: Excellence in the way we deliver our Planning Service, the RAG status was green and felt that a better reflection of current progress against targets would be amber.

In response to Member queries regarding Directional Shift S2 it was noted that officers were working closely with Natural England and farm and land managers regarding the Countryside Stewardship Scheme and that a report on the Corporate Strategy would be made to the December Authority meeting.

A query was raised on Appendix 2 regarding S1.9 and it was noted that a report on the Capital Strategy would also be made to the December Authority meeting which would be followed by further reports on specific areas.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Quarter 2 Corporate Performance Return, given in Appendix 1 of the report, is reviewed and any remedial action agreed including changing the status of C3a from green to amber .
2. That the Corporate Risk Register, summary given in Appendix 2 of the report be reviewed and status of risks accepted.
3. That the status of complaints and Freedom of Information Requests, given in Appendix 3 of the report, be noted.

69/15 ITEM FOR NO DISCUSSION: RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY (A91941/WA)

This item had been identified by the Chair as not needing discussion.

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That the updated Risk Management Policy in Appendix 1 of the report, and supporting documentation in Appendix 2 of the report, are approved.

70/15 EXEMPT INFORMATION S100(A) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item No. 12 to avoid the disclosure of Exempt Information under S100 (A) (4) Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Paragraph 7 "Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime".

71/15 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT BLOCK 1 2015/16 (A1362/7/PN)

Ian Morton, the Authority's representative from Veritau Internal Auditors, was present at the meeting and introduced the report.

The recommendations as set out in the report were moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That the internal audit report for PCIDSS covered under Block 1 for 2015/16 be received (in Appendix 1 of the report) and the agreed actions considered.
2. That the internal audit report for Visitor Centre Security covered under Block 1 for 2015/16 (in Appendix 2 of the report) be noted.

The meeting ended at 11.40 am