

JOINT BOARD**Monday, 13th March, 2017**

Present:-

Bolsover District Council

Councillor Mary Dooley
Councillor Ann Syrett
Dan Swaine (BDC/NEDDC)

Chesterfield Borough Council

Councillor John Burrows
Councillor Terry Gilby
Jenny Williams

North East Derbyshire District Council

Councillor Graham Baxter (Chair)
Councillor Betty Hill

Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Credit Union

Bill Furness

17 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS
RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received.

18 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Huw Bowen.

19 **MINUTES**

The notes and the Record of Decisions of the Joint Board meeting held on 12 September, 2016 were noted.

20 **CHESTERFIELD AND NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE CREDIT UNION -**

BUSINESS PLAN

The Joint Board considered the Business Plan of Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Credit Union (CNEDCU) for October 2016 to September 2019.

The Business Plan noted that the financial and professional support from partner agencies had been fundamental in putting the CNEDCU in a position where it could continue to grow in order to achieve its mission, address its vision and meet its aims and objectives whilst maintaining its core values. Growth had been seen through the increase in the number of paid staff, move to high street premises and Junior Savers Scheme and Family Loan Scheme.

The plan outlined the credit unions' mission, aims and objectives and the ways in which the business plan would be delivered. Details were also provided on the three year financial plan and the associated risks, mitigation and contingency plans.

AGREED –

That the report be noted.

21 INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM 2017/18 BUSINESS PLAN

The Internal Audit Consortium Manager attended to present a report to update the Joint Board on the progress made by the Internal Audit Consortium during 2016/17 and to seek approval for the business plan (budget) for the Consortium for 2017/18.

The report included a progress summary on:

- the external review of internal audit;
- the current staffing and training situation;
- the update of working procedures;
- the internal audit plans for the 3 authorities.

It was noted that the revised business plan for 2016/17 now predicted a surplus of £40,730 mainly due to salary savings from not filling a 0.5FTE vacant post and the external review of internal audit costing less than expected. The estimated accumulated surplus at the end of 2016/17 was £60,730; it was proposed that £20,000 would be retained as a working

balance with the remainder (£40,730) distributed to the partner authorities.

The Internal Audit Consortium Manager advised that the draft business plan for 2017/18 had been prepared based on retaining 9.1 FTE posts and the draft budget had reflected provision for pay awards.

AGREED –

1. That the progress made by Internal Audit Consortium be noted.
2. That the revised Business Plan (budget) for 2016/17 and the draft Internal Audit Consortium Business Plan (and associated charges) for 2017/18 be approved.
3. That the accumulated surplus of the Internal Audit Consortium at the 31 March, 2017 (less £20,000 to be held as a working balance) be distributed to the partner authorities.
4. That an annual report on the outcome of the operation of the Internal Audit Consortium for 2016/17 be submitted to the Joint Board following the year-end.

22 EXTERNAL REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT

The Internal Audit Consortium Manager presented a report to inform the Joint Board of the results of the external review of internal audit that took place at the beginning of October 2016.

Internal Audit had been working to the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) since their introduction in April 2013; the PSIAS require that an external assessment of internal audit be carried out at least once every 5 years by a qualified, independent assessor or team. Following a tender exercise, Robin Pritchard, a CIPFA qualified assessor with 39 years internal audit experience, was procured to undertake the external assessment.

The key points arising from the review included:

- the Internal Audit Consortium (IAC) complied with and in places exceeded the requirements of the PSIAS;
- the IAC benchmarked favourably compared with its peers;

The key theme throughout the report and recommendations was in relation to enhancing and developing the use of risk based auditing.

An action plan addressing the recommendations would be implemented to ensure that the Councils continued to receive an effective internal audit service that was compliant with the PSIAS.

AGREED –

1. That the results of the external review of internal audit be noted.
2. That the action plan that had been put in place to address the recommendations arising out of the review be approved.