

JOINT BOARD

Monday, 5th October, 2015

Present:-

Bolsover District Council
Councillor M Dooley
D Swaine (BDC/NEDDC)

Chesterfield Borough Council
Councillor J Burrows
H Bowen
D Cairns
M Clinton
N Johnson
J Williams

North East Derbyshire District Council
Councillor G Baxter (Chair)
Councillor M Dooley

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

No declarations were made.

13 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Syrett and Councillor Gilby.

14 **MINUTES**

The notes and the Record of Decisions of the Joint Board meeting held on 16 March, 2015 were noted.

15 **ROLE OF JOINT SCRUTINY**

The Chief Executive of Chesterfield Borough Council and the Committee and Scrutiny Co-ordinator of Chesterfield Borough Council presented a report to inform the Joint Board of a request from the Joint Scrutiny Panel for information on the Board's future plans and its work programme.

The Joint Scrutiny Panel had been established to provide overview and scrutiny of the shared services between Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council. The shared services that reported to Joint Board were now limited to BCN Consultancy and Internal Audit Consortium.

It was discussed that the Joint Board was required to continue to meet to set the budgets for BCN Consultancy and Internal Audit Consortium and to receive their annual reports on their performance.

The Joint Board stressed that the Joint Scrutiny Panel should be free to set its own work programme without interference from the Joint Board.

It was agreed that the Panel would be advised of the regular reports received in respect of the functions of the Joint Board and be advised that the Joint Crematorium also operated as another shared service, although reporting to the Joint Crematorium Committee, and that the Panel be invited to consider any issue in relation to these that they wished to raise.

AGREED:

- (1) That the Joint Scrutiny Panel be advised of the regular reports received in respect of the Shared Services and that the Panel be invited to consider any issue in relation to these that they may wish to raise.
- (2) That the Joint Scrutiny Panel be advised that the Joint Crematorium was another shared service that was open to the Panel to consider.

16 INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

The Interim Head of the Internal Audit Consortium submitted a report to inform the Joint Board of the Consortium's performance during 2014/15.

The report gave a summary of the progress made with regard to:

- The preparation of Internal Audit Plans for the three Councils
- Changes made to Working Procedures / Improvement Plans
- The Consortium's Financial performance
- Staffing, Training and Development

It was noted that the 2014/15 budget outturn showed a surplus of £53,166; the main reason being due to lower staffing costs. The accumulated surplus at 31 March 2015 was therefore £171,000 (made up of the 2014/15 surplus and £118,000 from previous years.) The purposes for the retention of part of the surplus and the distribution of the remainder were agreed by the Joint Board in March 2015.

The Risk Register had been updated and this was attached to the report.

It was discussed that the Derbyshire Chief Executives would be pursuing the development of options for establishing a Derbyshire wide Internal Audit service.

AGREED:

That the annual report of the Internal Audit Consortium be noted.

17 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972- EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

AGREED –

That under Regulation 21 (1)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2000, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972' on the grounds that it contains information relating to financial or business affairs and to consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.

18 BCN CONSULTANCY UPDATE AND FINANCIAL POSITION

The Development and Growth Manager (Chesterfield Borough Council) presented a report detailing the current financial position of BCN at the end of August 2015.

The report also outlined progress made towards exploring the potential for a strategic approach to providing Building Control services for Derbyshire. A business case was being prepared and would be brought to Joint Board for approval when completed.

AGREED –

- (1) That the current financial position of BCN as at the end of August 2015 be noted.
- (2) That the work undertaken in exploring the option for a Derbyshire wide service be noted.