

JOINT BOARD

Tuesday, 17th September, 2019

Present:-

Councillor Fritchley (Chair)

Councillors Powell
McGregor

Councillors Serjeant

*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

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

Huw Bowen declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 6 as he is a director of BCN.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Gilby (CBC), Thacker (NEDDC) and Dale (NEDDC).

3 MINUTES

The notes and the Record of Decisions of the Joint Board meeting held on 20 March, 2019 were noted.

4 INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19

The Internal Audit Consortium Manager submitted a report to inform the Joint Board of the Consortium's performance during 2018/19.

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 outturn for the year 2018/2019 showed a surplus of £46,670 plus a brought forward balance of £20,000; the main reason for the surplus was due to salary savings. It was agreed by the Joint Board in March 2019 that the accumulated surplus minus the working balance of £20,000 be distributed proportionately to the partner authorities.

It was noted that a self-assessment of Internal Audit undertaken in May 2019 did not identify any areas of non-compliance

Training continued to be a priority and two members of staff were undertaking an apprenticeship in Accountancy (CIPFA).

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

AGREED:

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

5 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 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972' on the grounds that it contains information on 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.

6 UPDATE ON THE DERBYSHIRE-WIDE BUILDING CONTROL PARTNERSHIP

The Chief Executive of Chesterfield Borough Council presented a report to update members on the progress made by Derbyshire Building Control Partnership. A brief background of the shared service was established. It was noted that operating profits were up and a dividend payment would soon be made to all six member authorities.

The board heard that High Peak and Staffordshire Moorlands had expressed an interest in joining the partnership. Discussions were ongoing and the board was assured that a report would be sent to shareholders with a recommendation regarding the admission of the two authorities, if they confirm a request to join.

Members were also reminded that in 2020 all shareholders will need to decide whether they wish to continue being part of the partnership. The legal paperwork would include clarification on the process of accepting new partners.

Discussion took place around the benefits of partnership working; including the benefits to the local workforce given the training opportunities provided, the income generated by the service and the improvement in standards.

AGREED –

That the report be noted.