

JOINT BOARD

Tuesday, 14th January, 2014
at North East Derbyshire District Council

Present -

Chesterfield Borough Council

Councillor J. Burrows
H. Bowen
J. Brobyn
M. Evans
M. Hayden
N. Johnson
J. Williams

Bolsover District Council

Councillor E Watts
G. Galloway (BDC/NEDDC)
W. Lumley (BDC/NEDDC)

North East Derbyshire District Council

Councillor G. Baxter
Councillor B. Hill

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

No declarations were made.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Angela Grundy.

3. **MINUTES**

The notes and the Records of Decision of the Joint Board meeting held on 4th November, 2013, were noted.

4. **INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM – PROVISION OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO DERBYSHIRE DALES DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The Interim Head of Internal Audit Consortium submitted a report to obtain Joint Board Members approval to provide a management service to Derbyshire Dales District Council.

Following the recent retirement of the Head of Internal Audit at Derbyshire Dales District Council, their Head of Finance had approached the Director of Resources for NEDDC and Bolsover District Council and the Head of Finance at Chesterfield Borough Council with a view to requesting management services from the Internal Audit Consortium.

Initial discussion and research had taken place at Derbyshire Dales District Council and the Interim Head of Internal Audit was of the opinion that a management service could be provided for 30 days per year at a cost of £9,600 per annum. The management service would include producing the audit plan, the annual report and progress reports for their Audit Committee. It would also entail reviewing their internal audit sections work and monitoring delivery of the plan to ensure that the quality aspect of the PSIAS was achieved.

It was the view of the Interim Head of Internal Audit and the Chief Financial Officers at the Council's within the Consortium that this arrangement would not undermine the ability of the Internal Audit Consortium to provide the required level of internal work to the existing participants in the Internal Audit Consortium. However this opinion would be subject to review by the Audit Committee at each individual Council.

Approval has been obtained from Derbyshire Dales District Council's Audit Committee to enter into the arrangement commencing from the beginning of January, 2014.

The arrangement would increase joint working with a Derbyshire District Council and also generate an income for the Council. Financial provision had been made within the 2014/15 budget to ensure that the respective audit plans of each Council would still be delivered in the event of any unforeseen circumstances arising or to cover any potential lack of resource due to the provision of management services to Derbyshire Dales District Council. A working balance of £30,000 would be carried forward together with an additional £45,000 being made available due to the Head of Internal Audit post and the Deputy Head of Internal Audit post both being budgeted for but only one being occupied currently.

AGREED:- That the provision of management services to Derbyshire Dales District Council be approved.

5. **INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM – PROGRESS REPORT AND BUSINESS PLAN 2013/14 AND DRAFT BUSINESS PLAN 2014/15**

The Interim Head of the Internal Audit Consortium submitted a report updating the Joint Board on progress made by the Consortium during the period April - November, 2013 and on the business plan (budget) for 2013/14.

Approval was sought for the revised 2013/14 business plan and draft business plan for 2014/15.

The accumulated surplus at the previous year end (31st March 2013) of £30,965 had been retained by the Consortium pending a grading appeal by Auditors, and a working balance of a further £20,000 was also retained. An accumulated surplus at the end of 2013/14 was estimated in the sum of £75,210, which was mainly due to the salary savings from the retirement of the Head of Internal Audit and the reduced hours of other members of staff.

A summary of progress on the following issues was also outlined in the report:-

- staffing issues, outlining the current approved establishment
- internal audit plans
- working procedures

- AGREED –**
1. That the progress made by the Internal Audit Consortium be noted.
 2. That the vacant parts of 3 posts (0.6 FTE) be frozen and that the position be reviewed in 12 months time.
 3. That the revised Business Plan (Budget) for 2013/14 and the draft Internal Audit Consortium Business Plan (and associated charges) for 2014/15, based on Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.
 4. That the accumulated surplus of the Internal Audit Consortium at 31st March, 2014 (less £30,000 to be held as a working balance), be distributed to the partner authorities.
 5. That an annual report on the outcome of the operation of the Internal Audit Consortium for 2013/14 be submitted to the Joint Board following the year end

6. **HS2 – UPDATE**

The Head of Regeneration gave an update in respect of the proposed introduction of the high speed rail connectivity between London and Leeds.

He confirmed that the key issues had been presented to the HS2 team and a report was to be considered by Chesterfield Borough Council's Cabinet on 28th January 2014. The report flags up the concerns raised, including the impact on the Staveley Corridor, Markham Vale and Chesterfield Canal.

Members commented that although they were in support of the economic development that HS2 would bring to the region, they wanted to ensure that their concerns were highlighted in the response to government about some of

the detrimental effects it would have on the residents and economies of the areas covered by their respective authorities.

It was suggested and agreed that the Communications team be asked to produce a statement setting out their reservations to ensure that the LEPs and members of the public were made aware. A copy of the statement would be circulated prior to its publication.

AGREED - That the update be noted.

7. **BCN CONSULTANCY (BUILDING CONTROL)**

The Head of Regeneration (CBC) and the Building and Contracts Manager (Bolsolver & North East Derbyshire District Councils) submitted a report for Joint Board Members to consider the current financial position of BCN and the final report of the Options Appraisal for BCN, and to determine the next steps.

- AGREED -**
1. That the current financial position of BCN at the end of November 2013, as set out at Appendix A to the report, be noted.
 2. That the recommendations of Urban Vision's Options Appraisal report, set out at Appendix B of the report, be noted, but that a decision on implementing either of the recommended options be deferred until discussions have taken place with other councils regarding a wider local authority partnership.
 3. That the BCN Client Officers be instructed to explore the potential for a wider local authority building control consortium, primarily in Derby City and across Derbyshire, and to report the outcome back to a future meeting of the Joint Board.
 4. That three of the six expressions of interest for voluntary redundancy, as discussed, be accepted.

8. **DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

AGREED - That the meetings for 2014/15 be as follows:-

2014	2015
10 th March (Bolsover)	19 th January (NED)
12 th May (CBC)	16 th March (Bolsover)
30 th June at (NED) – 2.30 pm	
1 st September at (Bolsover)	
10 th November at (CBC)	

All meetings commence at 10.30 am with the exception of 30th June 2014 which will at 2.30 pm.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

D2N2

At the request of the Leader of Chesterfield Borough Council, it was agreed that D2N2 LEP Board matters would be included as a standard item on all future agendas.

D2 Economic Prosperity Board

Wes Lumley, Chief Executive for Bolsover District Council and North East Derbyshire District Council gave an update in respect of the D2 Joint Committee/Economic Prosperity Board.