JOINT BOARD

Monday, 1 September, 2014 at Bolsover District Council

Present -

Bolsover District Council

Councillor E. Watts (in the Chair)

Councillor A. Tomlinson

Councillor K. Bowman

W. Lumley (BDC/NEDDC)

P. Hackett (BDC/NEDDC)

J. Williams

Chesterfield Borough Council

Councillor J. Burrows

Councillor T. Gilby

Councillor A. Slack

H. Bowen

D. Cairns

North East Derbyshire District Council

Councillor G. Baxter

1. <u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS'</u> INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No declarations were made.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Betty Hill.

3. MINUTES

The notes and the Record of Decisions of the Joint Board meeting held on 12 May, 2014 were noted.

4. NORTH EASTERN DERBYSHIRE STRATEGIC EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

The Employment and Skills Officer (NEDDC) submitted a report to request that the North Eastern Derbyshire Strategic Employment Partnership (NEDSEP) be disbanded as it had been superseded by a collection of other locally delivered programmes to support young people into work.

AGREED - That NEDSEP be disbanded.

5. ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14 OF THE JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL (SHARED SERVICES) – CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH, BOLSOVER DISTRICT AND NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILS

The Joint Board considered the Annual Report 2013/14 of the Joint Scrutiny Panel (Shared Services). During the year the Panel had considered the annual reports, business plans and quarterly financial and performance information for the three main shared services: Building Control, Internal Audit and Procurement.

The Panel had also scrutinised the insurance arrangements of the three Councils to consider the possibility of a partnership approach. It was agreed that this was not appropriate given the differing needs of the three Councils, however it was recommended as a potentially beneficial approach for parish councils.

The Panel wished to be more proactively engaged with decision making and requested information be shared with them at an earlier stage. Future meetings of the Joint Scrutiny Panel (Shared Services) were to be scheduled to take place prior to meetings of the Joint Board, wherever possible.

AGREED – That the report be noted.

6. <u>INTERNAL AUDIT CONSORTIUM – ANNUAL REPORT</u> 2013/14

The Interim Head of the Internal Audit Consortium submitted a report to inform the Joint Board of the Consortium's work in its seventh year of operation (2013/14).

During this year the Consortium had expanded its operation to take on the management of the internal audit function at Derbyshire Dales District Council.

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
- Staff, Training and Development

It was noted that the 2013/14 budget outturn showed a surplus of £77,000; the main reason being due to lower staffing costs. The accumulated surplus at 31 March 2014 was therefore £128,000 (made up of the 2013/14 surplus and £51,000 from the previous year.)

It was proposed that £30,000 be retained as the previously agreed working balance, that £3000 be reserved for staff training and development and the balance retained as contingency for the Auditor grading appeal.

- **AGREED:** 1. That the annual report of the Internal Audit Consortium be noted.
 - That the surplus in the Internal Audit Consortium trading account be retained for the purposes described in paragraph 4.3 of the report.