

Time Commenced: 6.00pm
Time Finished: 7.00pm

AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE 12 DECEMBER 2012

Present: Councillor Roberts– Chair
Councillors Ashburner, Campbell, Davis, Harwood, Martin, Tittley
and Troup

35/12 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

36/12 Late Items

There were no late items.

37/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Interest.

38/12 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 October 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

39/12 Treasury Management – Progress Report

The Committee considered a report which detailed the Council's treasury management activity for the period 1 April 2012 to 30 September 2012. Treasury management activity during the half-year had generated an average rate of return on investments of 0.71%. The forecast average rate of interest charged on our Council borrowing is 4.70%. The very low rate of return on investments relative to the interest payable on loans continued, with consequent upward pressure on the Council's revenue costs. The forecast outturn for the Treasury Management budget in 2012/13 was currently £18.1m, against an annual budget of £18.6m. It was proposed to appropriate the £0.5m forecast under-spend to the Treasury Management Reserve to cover one-off budget pressures in 2013/14.

The report also covered the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy and an extension that was required to cover loans to external organisations. As the Council intended to offer mortgage support for first-time-buyers in Derby under the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme - LAMS, an extension to the Council's investment strategy was also proposed. Treasury Management advice to the Council continued to be provided by Arlingclose.

Resolved

1. To note the progress report on Treasury Management for the period 1 April 2012 to 30 September 2012.
2. To approve an appropriation of £0.5m to the Treasury Management Reserve to cover one-off budget pressures in 2013/14.
3. To approve the addition to the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision - MRP - statement as outlined in paragraph 6.3 of the report.
4. To approve the extension to the Council's investment strategy, which allowed the Council to offer mortgage support to first-time-buyers in Derby under LAMS.

40/12 Information Commissioner's Officer – Audit Report

The Committee provided the outcome of the audit by the information Commissioner's office of the Council's data protection processes.

Resolved to note the audit report from the Information Commissioner's Office and request an update at the next meeting on progress being made with the actions in Appendix A of the audit report.

41/12 Freedom of Information - Requests

The Committee considered a report which provided details on the frequent subjects requested under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Resolved to note the report.

42/12 Local Code of Corporate Governance

The Committee considered a report which sought approval of the revised and updated Local Code of Corporate Governance.

Resolved to approve the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance.

43/12 Audit Commission – Protecting the Public Purse

The Committee considered a report which provided a synopsis of the Audit Commission's latest national report on fraud in Local Government and the updated checklist for those responsible for governance to reflect the results of its annual fraud survey.

Resolved to note the report.

44/12 **Implementation of Internal Audit Recommendations**

The Committee considered a report which provided further information on the progress on the implementation of an internal audit recommendation regarding the Chipside system.

Resolved

- 1. To note the report.**
- 2. To request an update on progress at the March 2013 meeting of the Committee.**

Chair of the next ensuing meeting
at which these minutes were signed