



Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority

Audit and Standards Committee

Wednesday, 21 January 2015, 10:30

Minutes

Members Present: Ms L R Duffy , Mr W P Gretton , Ms K S Guthrie , Mrs A T Hingley , Mr A P Miller , Mr P Sinclair-Knipe , Mr G C Yarranton , Ms P Agar , Mr G J Vickery , Professor J W Raine , Mr S C Cross , Mr J W R Thomas

Substitutes: none

Apologies for Absence: Mr R I Matthews

1 Declarations of Interest (if any)

No declarations of interest were made.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 24 September 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Annual Audit Letter 2013/2014

The report was presented by Joan Hill from Grant Thornton UK LLP, the External Auditors. No significant issues were found with the primary statements in the 2013/2014 audit and an unqualified opinion on the Authority's 2013/14 financial statements and value for money conclusions were issued on 29 September 2014.

RESOLVED that the Committee note the Annual Audit Letter 2013/14 from the External Auditors. Grant Thornton UK LLP.

4 Review of Anti Money Laundering Policy

The report was presented by the Treasurer. The policy had been reviewed and updated in accordance with the Authority's code of corporate governance to ensure it remains fit for purpose and compliant with updated legislation.

RESOLVED that the Committee approve the revised Anti Money Laundering Policy.

5 Internal Audit Monitoring Report

The report was presented by internal auditor Andy Bromage. No high priority recommendations were put forward and confirmation was received that all assurances had been delivered.

The Treasurer asked the Committee to note that although the contract between Worcestershire Internal Audit and the Authority had reached its termination date (31 Dec 2014) coverage was continuing to the end of 2014/15 as agreed. Discussions were underway on the terms for the Authority to join the Worcestershire Internal Audit Partnership as agreed by the Fire Authority on 1 October 2014.

RESOLVED that the Committee note the report.

6 External Audit Fee Letter

The report was presented by Mark Stocks from Grant Thornton UK LLP, the External Auditors. Mr Stocks summarised the scale fee for Audit work along with the scope and timings of work to be undertaken.

RESOLVED that the Committee note the External Audit Fee Letter 2014/15 from the External Auditors, Grant Thornton UK LLP.

The Meeting ended at: 11:04

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Chairman