

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19 APRIL 2011**

Present: M Bonner, Independent Chair; Councillors P C Connolly; J Hully; G Scurrah

Councillor J Bowman also attended the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M McVeigh; J G Sunderland; D Wilson

Officers: J Wagstaffe, Corporate Director Resources and Transformation; J Betteridge, Head of Development Strategy; R Bascombe, Revenues and Benefits Partnership Manager; P Usher, Audit Manager D James, Member Services Officer

Also in attendance: H Hamilton, Audit Commission

#### **AU 166 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meetings held on 4 February 2011 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **AU 167 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor J Hully declared a personal interest in Agenda 7 due to being in receipt of benefits.

#### **AU 168 Closure of Accounts 2010/2011**

The Committee received a verbal update on the current position with regard to the closure of accounts 2010/11. It was noted that the accounts had been closed and would be with the Audit Commission by June. Members thanked officers for the hard work and progress made.

#### **AU 169 Fraud Quarterly Monitoring Report - Third Quarter**

The Committee considered the Fraud Quarterly Monitoring Report for the Fourth quarter, comprising the total cases investigated from January 2010 to March 2011, progress against targets, staffing issues and current work on live cases.

#### **AU 170 Internal Audit Monitoring Report – Fourth Quarter**

The Committee considered a report on work carried out by Internal Audit in the Fourth quarter of 2010/11.

**AU 171 Internal Audit Plan 2011/12**

Consideration was given to a report setting out the Audit Plan for 2011/12 based on the anticipated resources available under the proposed internal shared service arrangements.

**RESOLVED** – That a) the draft internal audit Plan be approved; and  
b) the intention to update the Audit Plan once the shared service structure is implemented and all posts filled be noted.

**AU 172 Closure of Accounts 2010/2011**

The Committee considered a report setting out the processes to be followed to achieve closure of accounts for 2010/2011 by the statutory deadline to enable this Committee to carry out its responsibilities in approving the Statement of Accounts.

**RESOLVED** – that the report be noted.

**AU 173 Audit Opinion Plan 2010/2011**

The Committee considered the Audit Commission's Audit Opinion Plan for 2010/2011, setting out the audit work proposed for the audit of financial statements and the value for money conclusion.

Members discussed matters arising from the report relating to risks, VFM conclusions, capacity and audit fees.

**RESOLVED** – that the report be noted.

**AU 174 Strategic Housing Action Plan 2010/11 Exceptions Report**

Consideration was given to an exceptions report on the implementation of the Strategic Housing Action Plan as at 31 March 2011. It was noted that where actions had not been completed these would be rescheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2011/12.

**AU 175 Audit Commission Benefits Services Inspection**

Members received and noted the updated Audit Commission Benefit Service action plan.

**AU 176 Audit Commission Certification of Claims and Returns Annual Report**

The Audit Commissions certification of claims and returns annual report was received and noted by Members.

The meeting closed at 3.45 pm

Chairman .....

Date .....