

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
- PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8 MARCH 2005

Present: Councillors Mrs Y Clarkson (Chair); J Hewitson (Deputy Chair); Mrs A Bradshaw; F Gleaves; M McVeigh; A Norwood; P Tyson; G Sunderland; Mrs C Watson; Mrs J Hully

Also present: Cllrs Mrs M Docherty; Mrs W Metherell; N Williams

Officers: M Jepson (Items 1-9); T Capper, Principal Officer Secretariat (Items 9-13); Mrs S Borwick, Head of Finance and Business Development; K Hastings, Head of Strategy and Communications; Mrs M Robinson, Audit Manager.

Also in attendance: Mr A Wilson, Audit Manager, Audit Commission
Mr A Cook, Head of IT, Cumbria County Council

PR92 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED – That pursuant to Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds of likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by paragraphs 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

PR93 Procurement of ICT Service

Members received a presentation from Ken Hastings on a possible partnership arrangement with Cumbria County Council, a copy of which is at appendix 1. Details of the nature of the relationship between Cumbria County Council and their private contractor followed.

RESOLVED that

- the cautious approach to a partnership be supported.
- Members be kept informed of progress.

IN PUBLIC

PR94 Audit Commission Report on Internal Audit

Mr Wilson reported his view of the self-assessment carried out by Internal Audit. In the course of discussion, he raised the issue of the need for some audit reporting functions to go to a decision-making body, rather than Overview and Scrutiny. With forthcoming changes to accountancy practice, he advocated a return to an Audit Committee.

RESOLVED - that the findings be noted and that a report on possible committee options for the audit function return to the next meeting.

PR95 Internal Audit Report on compliance with CIPFA Code

The Committee was told that the extent of compliance with the standards – 83% fully compliant and 15% partially compliant – was average for Cumbria and in the top10% for the North West. The Action Plan arising from the self-assessment was questioned in detail.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

PR96 Audit Sub Group Report

The Committee received and noted the report of the audit sub-group.

PR97 Asbestos Management Policy

The Committee received the draft policy document and

RESOLVED – that the policy go forward to the Executive.

The meeting closed at 4.10 pm.

Chair:.....

Date:.....