

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

of meeting held on **24 SEPTEMBER 2010** at

Loxley House from 10.00 am to 11.20 am

Councillor Williams (Chair)
Councillor Aslam (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Culley (substitute for Councillor Price)
Councillor Dewinton
Councillor Edwards
Councillor Griggs
Councillor Long
Councillor Parbutt
Councillor Price

indicates present at meeting

Also in attendance

Jeff Abbott	- Head of Strategic Finance)	
Kevin Banfield	- Head of Performance, Improvement and Planning)	
Simon Burton	- Corporate Performance and Quality Officer)	
Theresa Channell	- Senior Finance Manager)	Resources
Tony Kirkham	- Director of Strategic Finance)	
Carole Mills-Evans	Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Resources)	
Rachel Mottram	- Committee Administrator)	
Shail Shah	- Head of Internal Audit)	
Paul Hutchings	- Audit Manager)	Audit
Sue Sunderland	- District Auditor)	Commission

16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Parbutt and Price.

17 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

18 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 30 July 2010, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair, subject to an addition to minute 13 to reflect the discussion on officers delegated powers and the request of the committee for such a list to be provided.

19 PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS – VERBAL UPDATE

Further to minute 14 dated 30 July 2010, the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Resources reported that the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) had discussed the implementation of a new complaints system and a report on this subject would be submitted to Executive Board in October 2010.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

20 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10 AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REPORT (AGR): NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL – AUDIT 2009/10

Further to minute 6 dated 25 June 2010, consideration was given to reports of the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Resources and the District Auditor, Audit Commission, copies of which had been circulated. An amended version of the Statement of Accounts (SoA) was circulated at the meeting following ongoing work that had resulted in a number of changes to the version circulated with the agenda, with all changes shown in green.

The District Auditor advised that an updated report was now available to the version circulated with the agenda which gave the Council an unqualified opinion on the Council's financial statements.

RESOLVED

(1) that the following be noted:

- (i) the SoA 2009/10, subject to amendments as discussed and included within the amended version circulated at the meeting that included changes arising from work undertaken by the District Auditor and Council officers;**
- (ii) the AGR and the District Auditors' response to issues it raised;**

(2) that colleagues be congratulated for all of their hard work in preparing the SoA 2009/10.

21 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (AGS) 2009/10

Further to minute 13 dated 30 July 2010, consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Resources, copies of which had been circulated, detailing the finalised Annual Governance Statement 2009/10, prior to publication alongside the City Council's Statement of Accounts 2009/10.

RESOLVED that the AGS 2009/10, set out at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

22 AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10

Consideration was given to a report of the Chair, copies of which had been circulated, outlining the work undertaken by the committee and how that related to the committee's core responsibilities, prior to the report being submitted to Council on 11 October 2010 to demonstrate how the committee had fulfilled its designated role and contributed to the Council's governance framework.

RESOLVED that the work undertaken by the committee be noted and the report, as set out at Appendix 1, be approved for submission to Council on 11 October 2010.

23 STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER (SRR) QUARTER 1 (Q1) 2010/11 UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Resources, copies of which had been circulated, that provided the Q1 strategic risk management report that focussed on the progress made in reducing threat levels of each strategic risk.

RESOLVED

(1) that the following be noted:

- (i) the progress on reducing the seriousness of the Council's strategic risks as reflected by their current threat levels and Direction of Travel;**
- (ii) the initial assessment of the impact of the change of government and associated policy included as Appendix 2 to the report;**
- (iii) the merger of SR15 – Deliver LAA and SR16 – deliver outcomes for local people under the title *Failure of partners including the City Council to work effectively together to achieve vision and outcomes in the Nottingham Plan to 2020* (updated RMAP for SR16 included as Appendix 3 to the report);**
- (iv) the demotion of four strategic risks to their corresponding Corporate Directorate Risk Registers: SR8 – loss or misuse of data; SR12 – educational attainment; SR18 – workplace strategy and SR20 – teenage pregnancy;**
- (v) the addition of a new strategic risk, SR25 – failure to develop a strong and well resourced commissioning programme at Appendix 4, approved for inclusion on the SRR by CLT at its 10 August meeting;**

(2) that SR3 – failure to minimise the impact of the economic downturn on the development of Nottingham City and SR12 – Educational attainment, be selected for specific scrutiny for the SRR Q2 2010/11 update.

24 EXEMPT APPENDIX 4 – STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER Q1 2010/11 UPDATE

Consideration was given to an exempt appendix to the report of the Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director for Resources, copies of which had been circulated.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the contents of the exempt appendix be noted, as part of the Committee's consideration of the overall issue under minute 23 above;**
- (2) that the *Review of 100 Voluntary Sector Services* be brought back to the next meeting of the committee with all of the details associated with this risk.**