

Audit Committee and Audit Committee (Advisory) - 24 March 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee and Audit Committee (Advisory) held at Committee Room 4, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 24 March 2015 at 7.30 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Richard Greening (Chair), Olly Parker (Vice-Chair) and Raphael Andrews
Also Present: **Independent member:** David Bennett

Councillor Richard Greening in the Chair

36 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item A1)**

Apologies were received from Councillor David Poyser.

37 **DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item A2)**

None.

38 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item A3)**

None.

39 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item A4)**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee and the Audit Committee (Advisory) held on the 29 January 2015 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

The Committee noted that the statistics regarding the number of residents who had been prevented from registering were not yet available from the software. The Head of Registration and Electoral Services had asked if this could be made available but this was unlikely to be obtained prior to the election. This information could be reported to a future meeting when available.

Members asked to be informed regarding the designation of the polling place for St Peter's ward.

40 **KPMG REPORTS (Item B1)**

a) External Audit Plan

The Committee noted that it was expected that the audit fee may reduce in the future but any reduction in fees would not affect the way that the audit was carried out and issued. The value of the external audit was over 1000 staff hours but was not quantified in the plan. At the expiry of the contract with KPMG, it was expected external auditors would be appointed by an independent panel.

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b) Certification of Claims and Returns – Annual Report 2013/14

The Committee noted that the certification of claims and returns did not result in any areas of concern that would have resulted in a change in subsidy.

RESOLVED that the reports be noted.

41 **AUDIT PLAN 2015/16 (Item C1)**

The Committee noted that a member of staff would be dedicating 180 days to fraud support, in addition to the 55 days detailed in the Audit Plan. The monitoring of spending on agency staff had been added to the Internal Audit workplan for 2015/16, Quarter 2.

The risk assessment framework was a useful tool when considering the scope of the work undertaken by Internal Audit team. The workplans of the Scrutiny Committees would need to be checked in order to ensure that there was no overlap of work.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and the Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2015/16 be approved.

42 **ESTABLISHING AN ISLINGTON PENSION BOARD (Item C2)**

Councillor Olly Parker took the Chair for this item as Councillor Richard Greening was the Chair of the Pension Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED that

- a) the nomination process undertaken be noted;
- b) the employer representatives on the Pension Board shall include an Islington Councillor or officer to be appointed at Annual Council.
- c) The following members be appointed for a term of three or four years or until a successor is appointed:-
Vaughan West, GMB as a member representative,
Mike Calvert, Unison, as a member representative,
David Bennett, as an independent member,
Bob Anderson as an employer representative,
Maggie Elliot, as an employer representative.
- d) Vaughan West be appointed as Chair of the Pension Board, subject to his agreement.

The meeting ended at 8.10 pm

CHAIR