

M MINUTES

meeting: **AUDIT (MONITORING OF AUDIT INVESTIGATIONS)
SUB-COMMITTEE**

date: **29 APRIL 2013**

Present:

Councillor Mrs Thompson (Chair);
Councillors Dr Hardacre and Inston

Employees in attendance:

Delivery

P Farrow	-	Head of Audit
S Lunn	-	Head of Operational Finance
R Morgan	-	Senior Audit Manager
M Webb	-	Head of Service- Delivery
M Wilkes	-	Principal Auditor
M Fox	-	Democratic Support Officer, Governance Services Division

Wolverhampton
City Council



PART I – OPEN ITEMS
(Open to press and public)

Declarations of interest

29 There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

30 Resolved:
 That the minutes of the meeting of the Audit (Monitoring of Audit Investigations) Sub-Committee held on 21 January 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

Training for schools – financial matters (resolution 26)

Councillor Hardacre asked about progress with the provision of training for schools regarding financial matters and compliance with agreed recommendations. The Senior Audit Manager indicated that a tailored awareness session would be explored for schools and the Chair suggested that this should include governors and headteachers.

31 Resolved:

 That appropriate training packages be explored for schools regarding financial matters and compliance with agreed recommendations.

Schedule of outstanding minutes (appendix 11)

The Democratic Support Officer presented the Schedule of outstanding minutes.

32 Resolved:
 That the report be received and noted.

Exclusion of press and public

33 Resolved:
 That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from consideration of the items of business in part II of the agenda on the grounds that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, exempt information falling within paragraph 1, 2 & 3 of schedule 12A of the act, is likely to be disclosed.

PART II – EXEMPT ITEMS
(Press and public excluded)

Audit services – counter fraud report – April 2013 (appendix 12)

Mark Wilkes, Principal Auditor, presented a report which updated the Sub-Committee on the current counter-fraud activities undertaken by Audit Services. Councillor Hardacre asked whether audit services are sufficiently well staffed to deal with the current workload. The Head of Audit responded that he believed the section to be suitably staffed with the appropriate skills and experience, but undertook to report back if any difficulties were perceived in the future. The Chair stressed the importance of appropriate resources in this area. A discussion also took place about current fraud awareness training for officers and the need to ensure that as many officers attend as possible. Wide circulation of the Frauditor newsletter was also encouraged.

34 Resolved:

That the report be received and noted.

Audit update (appendix 13)

The Principal Auditor presented a report on current audit investigations. Councillor Hardacre asked whether consideration could be given to an audit of the pupil premium as used in schools and officers undertook to look into the matter.

Councillors also asked that case ref WBP101 (disabled facilities grant) as considered at a previous meeting be added to the current summary of investigations list as attached to the report. They also expressed appreciation of the action taken to date by employees in relation to this case.

35 Resolved:

(a) That the report be received and noted.

(b) That officers consider carrying out an audit of the pupil premium.

(c) That case ref WBP101 be added to the summary of investigations as attached to the report.

Vote of thanks

Reference was made to the services of the Chair to the sub-committee during the year.

36 Resolved:

That the appreciation to the Chair for her services during the year be placed on record.