

Audit (Monitoring of Audit Investigations) Subcommittee Minutes – 15 July 2013

Attendance

Members of the Sub-committee

Cllr Wendy Thompson (chair) Cllr Mike Hardacre Cllr Matthew Holdcroft Cllr Keith Inston Independent members Mike Ager

Staff

Peter Farrow Anthony Ivko Simon Lunn Richard Morgan Mark Wilkes Martin Fox Head of Audit Assistant Director - Community Head of Operational Finance Senior Audit Manager Principal Auditor Democratic Support Officer

Apologies

No apologies for absence were received.

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item Title No.

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

2. **Declarations of interest**

No declarations were received.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting (29 April 2013) Martin Fox Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. Action

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Dates of Meetings 2013/2014

Resolved:

That it be noted that meetings of the Sub-committee will be held on the following dates commencing at 2.00pm: 21 October 2013 20 January 2014 28 April 2014

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

6. Exclusion of press and public

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within the paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Act set out below:

ltem	Title	Applicable paragraph
No.		
7	Audit services – Counter	3
	fraud report July 2013	
8	Audit update	1,2,3

Part 2 – exempt items, closed to the press and public

7. Audit services – Counter fraud report July 2013 P Mark Wilkes presented a report which updated the Sub-committee on the current counter fraud activities undertaken by the counter R fraud unit within Audit Services. He responded to questions from M Cllr Hardacre and Mike Ager about methods of working with M Wolverhampton Homes regarding fraud activities and reporting back mechanisms. Cllr Hardacre also asked whether the School Improvement Service within the Education and Enterprise Directorate is being monitored in terms of procurement processes and it was noted that many staff had attended the recent fraud awareness seminars. Peter Farrow undertook to check which employees had attended the sessions and to pass on a recommendation from the Sub-committee about the importance of attendance at the training sessions.

Peter Farrow/ Richard Morgan/ Mark Wilkes

Resolved:

That the current position with regard to the Council's counter fraud activities be noted and that employees be encouraged to attend future fraud awareness seminars, with further feedback being reported to the Sub-committee in due course.

8. Audit update

Mark Wilkes presented a report on current audit investigations. Anthony Ivko gave an update on case ref WPP 101 (disabled facilities grant) and undertook to provide further updates as appropriate. Concern was also expressed about case ref IL17W (BSF public arts works) and a further report was requested concerning the investigation. Cllr Inston asked whether grants to other schools had been investigated as a result of case ref IL18I (extended schools) and it was suggested that disciplinary action was necessary in this case. Peter Farrow suggested that a representative of the Schools' Audit Team be requested to attend the next meeting to report on their activities within schools. Resolved:

> That the current position with regard to audit investigations be noted that arrangements be made for a representative of the Schools' Audit Team to attend the next meeting to report on their activities within schools.

Peter Farrow/ Richard Morgan/ Mark Wilkes