



Audit (Final Accounts Monitoring and Review) Sub-committee Minutes – 25 July 2013

Attendance

Members of the Sub-committee

CLlr Keith Inston (chair)
CLlr Phil Bateman
CLlr Wendy Thompson

Staff

David Kane Head of Finance-Corporate Services
Martin Fox Democratic Support Officer

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from CLlr Matthew Holdcroft and Terry Day (Independent member)

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Action</i>
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MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 2. Declarations of interest**
No interests were declared.
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting (22 April 2013)** Martin Fox
Resolved:
That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- 4. Matters arising**
There were no matters arising.

5. **Dates of meetings 2013/14**

Resolved:

That it be noted that meetings of the Sub-committee will take place on the following dates at 2.00pm:

16 September 2013

9 December 2013

24 February 2014

7 April 2014

DECISION ITEMS

6. **Budget risks update and review**

Mark Taylor/
David Kane

The Head of Finance-Corporate Services submitted a report which detailed the risks and risk management arrangements relating to the Council's budget and finances and which asked the Sub-committee to agree to receive further updates in accordance with the agreed work programme.

Cllr Mrs Thompson raised a question about the transformation programme, noting the risks that might materialise as a result of not identifying savings or delivering the savings incorporated within the budget, but suggesting that the Council should be able to control the situation. The Head of Finance responded that this programme included risks which are not part of the Futureworks programme. It was noted that other measures have been put in place to try and reduce the demand on services for older people and in relation to looked after children and that the Assistant Director-Finance is working closely with the Community Directorate to resolve the issues.

Responding to a question about service level agreements in schools and a budget overspend, the Head of Finance indicated that Internal Audit will be carrying out a review of the arrangements and that an external adviser will also be carrying out a forensic review in view of the overspend in this area. He undertook to obtain further information for the Sub-committee about the appointment of the external adviser once available.

Cllr Mrs Thompson asked whether there were any other risks which had not been identified and the Head of Finance clarified that the main risks are reductions in grant funding, demand for services in children and adults' social care and equal pay issues. Cllr Bateman referred to the need for extremely careful monitoring of the situation as a whole and the Head of Finance commented on the challenging nature of the financial situation currently faced by the Council.

Resolved:

That the risks and risk management arrangements relating to the Council's budget and finances be noted and that further updates be submitted in accordance with the agreed work programme