



Audit (Monitoring of Audit Investigations) Sub-committee

Minutes – 21 October 2013

Attendance

Members of the Sub-committee

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

Independent members

Terry Day

Employees

Peter Farrow	Head of Audit
Mark James	Fraud Manager
Simon Lunn	Head of Operational Finance
Katy Morgan	Principal Auditor
Richard Morgan	Senior Audit Manager
Mark Wilkes	Principal Auditor
Martin Fox	Democratic Support Officer

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

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of interest**

Cllr Mike Hardacre declared a personal interest in agenda items 7/8 as far as they relate to the City of Wolverhampton College, the Central Learning Partnership Board and the Board of Wolverhampton Homes.

Martin Fox

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting (15 July 2013)** Martin Fox
Resolved:
That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
4. **Matters arising**
There were no matters arising.
5. **Briefing – Good practice/assurance in schools** Katy Morgan
The Sub-Committee received a briefing on the work of Audit Services in schools from Katy Morgan, Principal Auditor. The Sub-Committee was pleased to receive the presentation and noted that the work detailed in the presentation is providing increasing levels of assurance.

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:

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Applicable paragraph</i>
7	Audit services – Counter fraud report October 2013	3
8	Audit update	1,2,3

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

7. **Audit services – Counter fraud report October 2013** Peter Farrow/
Richard Morgan/
Mark Wilkes
Mark Wilkes presented a report which updated the Sub-committee on the current counter fraud activities undertaken by the counter fraud unit within Audit Services. Mark James was in attendance to provide further information about the plan to bring the Council's

Benefit Fraud Investigation Team under the Audit services umbrella.

Resolved:

That the current position with regard to the Council's counter fraud activities be noted.

8. **Audit update**

Mark Wilkes presented a report on current audit investigations. A concerned discussion took place regarding case ref WBP 108 (disabled facilities grant) and a course of action was suggested. Discussion also took place regarding case ref IL17W (BSF public art works), case ref IL 18I (extended schools) and case ref IL46I (fraudulent activity by an organisation carrying out a community service contract for the Council). The Sub-Committee also asked whether Katy Morgan, Principal Auditor, could attend future Sub-Committee meetings in view of the issues relating to educational establishments which regularly arise.

Peter
Farrow/
Richard
Morgan/
Mark Wilkes/
Katy Morgan

Resolved:

- (a) That the current position with regard to audit investigations be noted.
- (b) That, in connection with case ref WBP 108 (disabled facilities grant), employees in adult social care, legal and planning be asked to reconsider whether any further action is possible, to include action of an enforcement nature.
- (c) That progress reports be requested regarding case ref IL17W (BSF public art works) and case ref IL18I (extended schools).
- (d) That, in connection with case ref IL46I (fraudulent activity by an organisation carrying out a contract), a further report be submitted to give an assurance that the organisation is operating correctly.