

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the **JOINT AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE** held at the Council Chamber on Monday, 17 July 2017.

PRESENT:

Councillor Suzie Morley – Joint Chairman

Councillors:	Michael Burke	Tom Burrows
	Michael Creffield	John Matthissen
	Alastair McCraw	Dave Muller
	Mike Norris	Kevin Welsby
	Stephen Williams	

In attendance:

Assistant Director – Corporate Resources
Assistant Director – Law and Governance
Corporate Manager – Financial Services
Governance Support Officer (VL)

1 SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillors Elizabeth Gibson-Harries, Frank Lawrenson, Lesley Mayes, Mark Newman and William Shropshire.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

3 JAC/17/1 - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 MAY 2017

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Matters arising thereon: Minute 18 – Members noted that the clarification requested regarding Risks 2b and 2c had not yet been received and requested that this be followed up.

4 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PETITIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S PETITION SCHEME

None received.

5 **QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

None received.

6 **QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS**

None received.

7 **JAC/17/2 - JOINT ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT - 2016/17**

The Corporate Manager – Financial Services introduced report JAC/17/2 and responded to Members' questions including:

- Risk ratings
- Capital Programme – reasons for the slippages
- CCLA – Reason for the difference in interest received by BDC and MSDC
- Capital Receipts – reason for the difference between the estimated and actual figures
- Maturity Structure of Borrowing – plans put in place to manage the BDC peak maturity period

The recommendation at 2.1 was then moved and seconded.

By a unanimous vote

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

That the Treasury Management activity for the year 2016/17 be noted. Further, that it be noted that performance was in line with the Prudential Indicators set for 2016/17.

8 **JAC/17/3 - NON-SALARY EXPENSES**

The Assistant Director – Corporate Resources introduced report JAC/17/3. She confirmed that the Non Salary Expenses figures contained within Appendices A and B were split equally between Mid Suffolk and Babergh Councils. It was noted that the number of interims in a senior post had now reduced to one and it was now the policy to minimise the use of independent contractors.

Members welcomed the reduction in non-salary expenses which it was felt was due to good management.

By a unanimous vote

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

9 **CONSTITUTIONAL UPDATE**

The Assistant Director – Law and Governance advised Members that under changes agreed in April the Joint Audit and Standards Committee had responsibility for reviewing the Constitution, although any proposed amendments would have to be agreed by Council. Constitutional Update would therefore now be a standing item on the agenda.

She advised that the Officer Scheme of Delegation required a review and this would be a substantial piece of work, which it was intended to bring initially to the September meeting with a follow up in November. It was noted that although this review would cover some elements of planning, the Planning Charter dealt with whether an application must come before a Committee and this was not within the scope of the review. The Assistant Director would draft proposals in consultation with the Shared Legal Service for the September meeting.

10 **JAC/17/4 - FORWARD PLAN**

It was noted that the September meeting would be held at Endeavour House in the Britten Room.