

AUDIT COMMITTEE

(Civic Centre – Port Talbot)

Members Present:

20th March, 2015

Chairman: Councillor Mrs.L.H.James

Councillors: D.W.Davies, Mrs.R.Davies, J.S.Evans, M.Harvey,
D.Keogh and S.Rahaman

Officers In Attendance Miss A.O'Donnell, H.Jones and Mrs.T.Davies

**Representing the
Wales Audit Office:** S.Barry and R.Harries and Mrs J.McNicholas

Voting Lay Member: Mrs.J.Jenkins

1. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

The following Member made a declaration of interest at the commencement of the meeting:-

Councillor Mrs R.Davies

Item No. 5 – Internal Audit Service,
Progress Report to 28th February 2015
– as she is a Governor at Ysgol Gyfun
Ystalyfera.

2. **MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 5TH DECEMBER 2014**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the 5th December, 2014 be confirmed as an accurate record, subject to the following amendment:

- Minute number 1, *Councillor J.Jenkins* should read *Mrs J.Jenkins*.

3. **WALES AUDIT OFFICE - AUDIT PLAN 2015**

Members discussed the current scrutiny arrangements within the Authority and noted that a progress report on the Performance Audit Work Programme was ongoing and would be reported to the Audit Committee during the current calendar year.

The quality of the reproduction of the Audit Plan 2015, as circulated to Members, was discussed, and it was agreed that as the document had to be copied in black and white that Audit Officers would supply Democratic Services with a more easily reproducible format going forward.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

4. **INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2015 - 31ST MARCH 2016**

Members noted that the staffing compliment within Internal Audit had been reduced, but the number of days available had remained the same, as one Auditor had finished studying and other overhead type work had been reduced.

At the request of Members, Internal Audit would bring a report to the next meeting of the Audit Committee concerning the number of settlement agreements made within the last year, and the value of these.

RESOLVED: that the Internal Audit Plan for the period 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016, as detailed in the circulated report be approved.

5. **INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE - PROGRESS REPORT TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2015**

Members noted the update concerning the audit arrangements within the new regional collaborations, and a schedule of 'Lead Organisations' would be brought to the next meeting of the Audit Committee for Members' information.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

6. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: that pursuant to Section 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following item of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

7. **SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS**

Members received a verbal update on the current position in relation to Property Bay Wales.

Officers gave an overview of the private circulated report, and Members noted that Police involvement in Special Investigations was decided on a case by case basis. Members requested that an extra recommendation be added to the report, concerning Report Number 56, requesting the involvement of the Police in the case.

RESOLVED: that the private report be noted, and Internal Audit Officers speak with the Director of Education and the relevant Chair of Governors, concerning Police involvement in Report Number 56.

- The Committee resumed into Open Session -

8. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT MONITORING 2014/15**
(Councillor D.W.Davies joined the meeting at this point.)

Members discussed the circulated report including the current position regarding Icelandic banks.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

9. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY**

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

CHAIRMAN