

AUDIT COMMITTEE

(Committee Room 1/2 - Port Talbot Civic Centre)

Members Present:

25 September 2019

Chairperson: Councillor J.D.Morgan

Vice Chairperson: Councillor L.M.Purcell

Councillors: S. ap Dafydd, S.E.Freeguard, J.Miller,
R.W.Wood, O.S.Davies, A.N.Woolcock,
A.J.Richards and H.C.Clarke

Officers In Attendance A.Evans, C.Griffiths, H.Jones, C.D.Millis,
A.M.O'Donnell and J.Woodman-Ralph

Representing the Wales Audit Office: G.Gillett

Voting Lay Member: J.Jenkins

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

Councillor H.C. Clarke	Re: Private Report of the Head of Finance as she is Vice Chair of Governors at Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur Comprehensive School.
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2. **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 Paragraphs 12 and 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the above Act.

3. **AUDITS WHERE RISK RATING OF 3, 4 OR 5 WAS APPLIED AND DETAILS OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS**

Councillor H.C.Clarke re-affirmed her interest and left the meeting thereon.

Members received information on the audits undertaken in the last quarter as detailed in the private circulated report.

The Committee adjourned at 2.25pm.

The Committee reconvened at 2.45pm.

RESOLVED: That report number 11, item 4 of the circulated report be deferred to a future meeting of the audit committee. In addition, that the report be brought back to committee in a timely manner.

Discussion continued on the additional items contained within the circulated private report.

RESOLVED: That the private report be noted.

- Committee Resolved into Open Session -

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2019, be approved.

5. **AUDIT COMMITTEE UPDATE – NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Members received an update from the Welsh Audit Office on their current and planned work programme.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

6. **AUDIT COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019**

Members received an overview of the Audit Committee – Annual Report 2018 – 2019 as detailed in the circulated report.

RESOLVED: That approval be granted to forward the Annual Report 2018 – 2019 to Council.

7. **INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT TO 31 AUGUST 2019**

The Committee received the Internal Audit Progress Report to 31 August 2019 as detailed in the circulated report.

The report gave details of the work undertaken for the current financial year compared to that included in the Internal Audit Plan and highlighted issues relevant to the performance of the section.

It was explained that there had been a delay in completing the scheduled number of audits. This was due to the timescale for undertaking audits being extended due to the complexity of the investigations.

Discussion took place in regard to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). It was agreed that the Chair of Audit Committee would write to the Director of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning requesting a letter be sent to all schools within Neath Port Talbot area, asking for confirmation that all the necessary DBS checks had been undertaken.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

8. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT MONITORING 2019/20**

The Committee received the Treasury Management Monitoring 2019/2020 information as detailed in the circulated report.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

CHAIRPERSON