

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE AUDIT BOARD

THURSDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY 2012
AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors L. C. R. Mallett (Chairman), S. J. Dudley, Miss P. A. Harrison and Mrs. H. J. Jones

Observers: Councillors E. J. Murray, R. J. Shannon and S. P. Shannon

Officers: Mrs. S. Hanley, Ms. J. Pickering, Mrs. T. Kristunas, Mr. A. Bromage and Mrs. P. Ross

22/11 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. S. Brogan, Ms. M. T. Buxton and Dr. B. T. Cooper.

23/11 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

24/11 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Audit Board held on 15th December were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

(Note: Under this item the Board agreed to alter the running order of the agenda and that any agenda items not considered during the meeting be deferred to the next meeting of the Board).

25/11 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

RESOLVED that under Section 100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act, as amended, the relevant paragraphs of that part being as set out below, and that it is in the public interest to do so:

<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>
26/11	7
27/11	2 and 7

26/11 **INTERNAL AUDIT MONITORING REPORT**

As requested at the previous meeting of the Board, the Deputy Chief Executive (Leisure, Culture, Environment and Community Services), the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources and the Head of Finances and Resources attended the meeting to provide Members with an update on the outstanding audits yet to be completed.

The Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources informed the Board that the Internal Audit Monitoring Report would be monitored by the Worcestershire Internal Audit Shared Service Team. Officers then provided Members with updates for each of the outstanding audits. Following each update the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources highlighted to Members the audits identified as now being a lower priority and the audits that should be removed from the Internal Audit Monitoring Report.

Members were further informed that the Corporate Management Team (CMT) had been made aware of the concerns raised by the Board and that CMT were committed to giving priority to overdue actions.

The Chairman thanked officers for attending and for the detailed updates provided and in doing so he also stated that it was important that there was no further slippage.

27/11 **FRAUD INVESTIGATION UPDATE REPORT**

The Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources apologised to Members for information detailed in the Corporate Anti-Fraud Performance Report 2010-2011 presented to the Board on 15th December 2011. The report was misleading and had shown incorrect information in relation to the two cases referred to within the report.

Members were asked to consider the Fraud Investigation Update report which presented further detailed information and clarification in relation to the two cases referred to in the preamble above. The Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Resources and officers present responded to Members' questions. Members were asked to note the 'Lesson Learned' overview as detailed in the report.

Further discussion followed on the processes and decisions taken and officers responded to Members' questions in relation to these.

RESOLVED that the Corporate Anti-Fraud process and decision taken in relation to the specific investigation highlighted, be noted.

(Note: At this stage, due to the meeting becoming inquorate, it was agreed that the following agenda items be deferred until the next meeting of the Audit Board

- National Fraud Initiative Update
- Overpayments Update
- Protecting the Public Purse)

The meeting closed at 6.42 p.m.

Chairman