

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

RISK AND AUDIT SCRUTINY GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27 APRIL 2006 AT 1130 HRS IN MEETING ROOM 1, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors William Crawford, Douglas Reid, Gordon Cree, Harry Wilson, Stuart Finlayson, Eric Jackson and Elaine Dinwoodie; and Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; and Alex McPhee, Executive Head of Finance.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor John Knapp, as an observer.

ATTENDING: Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support; Colin Houston, Chief Auditor; and Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Cameron Revie, Engagement Partner; and Joanne McWilliams, Engagement Manager, both PricewaterhouseCoopers.

CHAIR: Councillor William Crawford, Chair.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. There were submitted, and approved as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meetings of the Risk and Audit Scrutiny Group held on 13 June 2005, 16 November 2005 and 12 December 2005 (circulated).

FOLLOW-UP OF 2004/2005 AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS - 2005/2006 AUDIT

2. There was submitted a report dated March 2006 (circulated) by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP which advised of the status of recommendations arising from the 2004/05 Audit.

In this connection the Group received a presentation by Joanne McWilliams, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

During discussion, the officers present and the representatives from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP responded to questions asked, and points of clarification sought, by Elected Members in respect of the undernoted issues, namely:-

- Management and monitoring of progress towards implementation of the recommendations for action identified in the report;
- The Council's absence management processes;
- Progress towards final outcomes in respect of equal pay and job evaluation issues;
- Progress towards update of the Council's fixed asset register and the Council's input to the national roads asset register; and
- Progress towards streamlining the number of pay runs which the Council operates.

Having heard the officers, it was agreed to note the terms of the report.

AUDIT PLAN 2006/2007

3. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Chief Auditor which advised of the Internal Audit Plan for 2006/2007.

It was agreed to note the terms of the report.

CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

4. There was submitted a report dated 20 April 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance which advised of the updated contents of the Corporate Risk Register.

It was agreed to note the progress made with regard to the management of corporate risks as detailed in the report.

The meeting terminated at 1210 hrs.