



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 2014

PRESENT: Councillor Richard Thomas (In the Chair)

Councillors: G Jones, T Chaplin, G Davies, C T Jones, G Lewis, T Lewis, B E Mansbridge and K Moran

Lay Member:
D Gibby

Officers:
Steve Jones (Chief Finance Officer), Ellis Cooper (Corporate Director of Customer Services), Colin Mahoney (Counter Fraud Manager), Louise Ballinger (Senior Audit Officer), Cheryllee Evans (Head of Property and Estates), Jeremy Morgan (Head of Engineering), Michael Campbell (Team Leader Building Services), Chris Ridout (Street Lighting), Angharad Hobson (Performance Support and Development Officer) and Kerry O'Donovan (Corporate Risk and Sustainability Manager)

Outside Bodies:
Sophie Taylor (PriceWaterhouseCoopers)

Karen Vokes (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
599	Apologies for absence	No apologies for absence as all present.
600	Declarations of Interest	No declarations of interest were made.
601	Action Schedule.	The Chair updated the Committee in relation to the Action Plan schedule dated 3 rd November 2014 and responded to questions raised.

		<p>With regard to the Annual Improvement Report, Steve Jones advised that as we have not received any formal report, this item will be delayed until this report is available.</p>
602	Update on Managing Corporate Risk: 1D – Carbon Reduction Commitment.	<p>The Chair welcomed Ellis Cooper, Kerry O'Donovan, Mike Campbell, Jeremy Morgan and Chris Ridout to the meeting.</p> <p>Mike Campbell gave an update on the progress made in managing the Corporate Risk in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Management Software to enable energy reduction targets to be set. • The installation of the most energy efficient equipment. • High efficiency boilers to be installed in Schools. • The continued installation of free photovoltaics (PV) through Egnida. <p>Jeremy Morgan and Chris Ridout gave an update on the progress made in managing the Corporate Risk in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of street lighting renewal project with more efficient and sustainable Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights. <p>Detailed discussion ensued in relation to progress of the identified risks, and questions were asked by Members and answered by the appropriate Officers.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>Councillors note the update on progress made in managing the Corporate Risk of failing to comply with mandatory Welsh Government targets and Carbon Reduction commitment.</p>
603	Auditor General's Annual Improvement Report.	<p>The Chair welcomed Angharad Hobson to the meeting.</p> <p>Angharad Hobson referred to the Annual Improvement Report which is prepared by the Wales Audit Office and sets out how well the Council is planning for improvement in delivering its services.</p> <p>She referred to the Statutory Recommendations as outlined in the Appendix to the report and gave an update to Councillors on progress made by the Council against these statutory recommendations and proposals for improvement.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>Councillors note the contents of the report and the progress made against the proposals made by the Wales Audit Office.</p>
604	Energy Efficiency Report.	<p>Mike Campbell advised members on progress made in energy efficiency since 2012 and detailed discussions ensued in relation to the following:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlighting energy efficiency/carbon management to Corporate Management Team, Senior Management Board and the Labour Group. • Energy walkabouts taken place within the Civic Centre and Unit 5. • Energy Policy • Boiler Replacement Program • Lighting and Controls • Voltage controls • Renewable Technology • Feasibility Studies • Street Lighting <p>RESOLVED that</p> <p>Councillors note the contents of the report.</p> <p>Councillor Kate Moran to speak to the Chair of Schools Scrutiny to look at ways of improving awareness of energy efficiency within Schools.</p>
605	Internal Audit Strategy and Plan 2014/2015.	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>As Gary Evans was unable to attend, this item be deferred to a special meeting on Monday, 17th November 2014.</p> <p>Democratic Services to confirm their availability for the special meeting and to e-mail the Audit Committee members to confirm.</p>
606	Update on recruitment to Internal Audit posts.	Steve Jones advised members of the up to date position in relation to the recruitment within Internal Audit.
607	Scrutiny and Audit Chairs Liaison Group update	The Chair advised that as the Scrutiny and Audit Chairs Liaison Group scheduled for Wednesday, 5 th November had been cancelled, he had nothing further to update.
608	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent