

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

29 September 2016

PROGRESS ON ISSUES RAISED BY THE COMMITTEE

**Joint Report of the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources
and the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)**

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To advise Members of

- (i) progress on issues which the Committee has raised at previous meetings
- (ii) other matters that have arisen since the last meeting and that relate to the work of the Committee

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 This report is submitted to each meeting listing the Committee's previous Resolutions and / or when it requested further information be submitted to future meetings. The table below represents the list of issues which were identified at previous Audit Committee meetings and which have not yet been resolved. The table also indicates where the issues are regarded as completed and will therefore not be carried forward to this agenda item at the next Audit Committee meeting.

Date	Minute number and subject	Audit Committee Resolution	Comment	Complete?
23/09/15	146 – Internal Audit Work and related Internal Control Matters for the Health and Adult Services Directorate.	That the Corporate Director – Strategic Directors discuss the timing of the next governance review of the Health and Wellbeing Board and Integrated Commissioning Board with the Assistant Director – Strategic Resources and the Head of Internal Audit.	Awaiting latest set of guidelines for Better Care Fund and on-going discussions with Health. Optimum timing will then be determined. A verbal update was provided to the Committee at the last meeting. This issue is such that it is unlikely that a single action will address. It is suggested that verbal updates continue to be provided and the focus on HAS for the September meeting provides opportunity to explore further.	X

Date	Minute number and subject	Audit Committee Resolution	Comment	Complete?
23/06/16	179 – Progress on Issues Raised by the Committee	That the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources supply Committee Members with a copy of the most recent quarterly Treasury Management to the Executive	The report was circulated to Committee Members on 15 September 2016	✓
	179 – Progress on Issues Raised by the Committee	That the precise number of employees who should have, but had not, completed the Information Governance mandatory online learning course by the 31 March 2016 deadline be reported to a future meeting, together with information concerning the action which had been taken as a consequence of non-completion.	Verbal update to be provided	?
	187 – Corporate Governance	That the Committee’s Chairman, County Councillor Helen Grant and Mr David Portlock be appointed to serve on the Governance Sub-Group so that a feedback report can be made to Committee on 29 September	See report from sub-group on agenda	✓
	186 – Business Continuity Plan - update	That Members’ comments be fed into Management Board as part of the validation of the Corporate Business Continuity Plan	Business Continuity not been on Management Board agenda subsequently as yet	x
	186 – Business Continuity Plan - update	That the link to the County Council’s Business Continuity Sharepoint site be provided to Committee Members	For technical and security reasons, access to the County Council’s Sharepoint site is restricted to County Councillors and NYCC staff only.	✓
	187 - Corporate Procurement Strategy	That the Head of Procurement and Contract Management research whether the County Council now has more suppliers as a consequence of the simplification of the rules.	Kevin Draisey to provide response at the appropriate time	x

Date	Minute number and subject	Audit Committee Resolution	Comment	Complete?
14/07/16	191 – Statement of Final Accounts 2015/16 – North Yorkshire Pension Fund	That Members contact officers (email addresses to be supplied) with further questions and queries with a view to satisfactorily resolving all issues in advance of the Audit Committee’s meeting on 29 September 2016.	SOFA presented to Audit Committee on 29 September	✓
	192 – Statement of Final Accounts 2015/16 - NYCC	That Members contact officers (email addresses to be supplied) with further questions and queries with a view to satisfactorily resolving all issues in advance of the Audit Committee’s meeting on 29 September 2016.	SOFA presented to Audit Committee on 29 September	✓
	193 – Annual Report on Partnership Governance 2015/16	That Neil Irving (Assistant Director, Policy and Partnerships) advise Members of the frequency of review of the advice which is provided to County Councillors about their responsibilities either as Directors or Trustees of an outside organisation.	Reviewed periodically as required as part of Constitution reviews. Last amended 2012. Monitoring Officer will review as part of the next Constitution Review (about to commence) and will also include this area in next governance training session for Members (date not yet set).	✓

3.0 TREASURY MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Following the outcome of the EU referendum, the Bank of England cut Bank Rate from 0.50% to 0.25% on 4 August 2016.
- 3.2 As a result, Capita Asset Services – Treasury Management provided an updated interest rate forecast on 16 August 2016. The forecast anticipates a further rate reduction to near zero in November, potentially to 0.10%. However, the Governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, has dismissed the potential for a negative interest rate. Going forward subsequent increases in Bank Rate are forecast in May 2018 to 0.25% and to 0.50% in May 2019

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That the Committee considers whether any further follow-up action is required on any of the matters referred to in this report.

GARY FIELDING
Corporate Director – Strategic Resources

BARRY KHAN
Assistant Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

29 September 2016

Background Documents: Report to, and Minutes of, Audit Committee meetings held on 23 June 2016 and 14 July 2016