

Meeting **GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Date **Wednesday 26 September 2018 (commencing at 1.00 pm)**

**membership**

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

**COUNCILLORS**

Bruce Laughton (Chairman)  
Andy Sissons (Vice-Chairman)

Nicki Brooks  
Steve Carr **A**  
Kate Foale  
Errol Henry JP  
Rachel Madden

Phil Rostance  
Steve Vickers  
Keith Walker  
Gordon Wheeler

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Cherry Dunk  
Paul Johnson  
Paul McKay

Adult Social Care and Public Health Department

Sara Allmond  
Glen Bicknell  
Heather Dickinson  
Rob Disney  
Nigel Stevenson  
Marjorie Toward

Chief Executive's Department

Marion Clay  
Colin Pettigrew

Children and Families Department

Rob Fisher

Place Department

Tony Crawley

KPMG External Auditors

**1. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 25 July 2018, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Steve Carr (other reasons).

The following temporary changes of membership, for this meeting only, were reported:-

- Councillor Steve Vickers had replaced Councillor Mike Quigley MBE;
- Councillor Gordon Wheeler had replaced Councillor John Handley.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

None

### **4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN DECISIONS MAY-AUGUST 2018**

Heather Dickinson introduced the report and responded to questions.

#### **RESOLVED: 2018/048**

- 1) That there were no actions arising from the issues contained within the report.
- 2) That a formal response to the LGSCO be approved confirming that the Council accepted the findings in the public report and that the Council had already complied with the recommendations by making an apology and relevant payments to the affected complainants, and delegates authority to the Service Director for Education, Learning and Skills in consultation with the Chairman, to finalise the content of such letter.

### **5. EXTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2017/18 AND PROGRESS REPORT**

Tony Crawley introduced the report.

The Chairman and Committee thanked Mr Crawley for his work for the County Council whilst undertaking the external audit role.

#### **RESOLVED: 2018/049**

To receive the Annual Audit Letter 2017/18.

### **6. UPDATE ON CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT**

Rob Fisher introduced the report and responded to questions.

#### **RESOLVED: 2018/050**

That a further update report be provided to the Committee in six months' time.

### **7. DIRECT PAYMENT MISUSE, FRAUD AND DEPRIVATION OF ASSETS**

Paul Johnson introduced the report and responded to questions.

A typographical error in the report was highlighted in paragraph 3, where the figure should have stated £41.2 million.

**RESOLVED: 2018/051**

That the outcome of the internal audit into Direct Payments and the response by the Department be welcomed.

**8. REVIEW OF THE PETITIONS SCHEME**

Heather Dickinson introduced the report and responded to questions. Members agreed that the minimum number of signatures required for a petition be set at 10.

**RESOLVED: 2018/052**

To approve the amendments proposed to the petitions scheme, including setting the minimum number of signatures for a valid petition at 10.

**9. WORK PROGRAMME**

**RESOLVED: 2018/053**

That the work programme be agreed.

The meeting closed at 2.01pm.

CHAIRMAN