

Agenda for a meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee to be held in Committee Room 3 at Shire Hall, Warwick on Tuesday 25 September 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

1. General

(1) Apologies for absence

(2) Members' Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

Members are reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a prejudicial interest the Member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies.

(3) Minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee meeting held on 4 June 2007 and matters arising.

Standards Item

2. Standards Board Bulletins

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

This report attaches for information publications Nos. 34 and 35 issued by the Standards Board.

Recommendation

That the Audit and Standards Committee notes publications Nos 34 and 35 issued by the Standards Board.

For further information please contact Jean Hardwick, Principal Committee Administrator Tel. 01926 412476 e-mail jeanhardwick@warwickshire.gov.uk

AUDIT ITEMS

3. External Auditors Annual Governance Report 2006/07

Report of the Strategic Director of Resources.

A report from the Audit Commission outlining matters arising from their audit of the 2006/07 accounts.

Recommendation

That Members of the Committee note the report and make comments

For further information please contact David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources, Tel: 01926 412003 e-mail davidclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk

4. External Auditors Letter of Representation 2006/07

Report of the Strategic Director of Resources.

A report to present to Members the Letter of Representation from the authority to the Audit Commission for 2006/07.

Recommendation

That Members of the Committee note the report and authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign.

For further information please contact David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources, Tel: 01926 412003 e-mail davidclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk

5. Statement of Accounts and Statement on Internal Control 2006/07

Report of the Strategic Director of Resources.

The report asks the Committee to note the minor changes arising from the final audit of the Statement of Accounts 2006/07 and the Statement on Internal Control.

Recommendation

That Members of the Committee note the report relating to the amended accounts and Statement on Internal Control.

For further information please contact David Clarke, Strategic Director of Resources, Tel: 01926 412003 e-mail davidclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk

6. Audit Committee Toolkit

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

This report summarises compliance with the latest Cipfa guidance on the operation of audit committees.

Recommendation

That the Committee considers the audit committee guidance issued by Cipfa and determines what further action might be required to ensure compliance.

For further information please contact Greta Needham, Head of Law and Governance Tel. 01926 416962 e-mail gretaneedham@warwickshire.gov.uk. And Garry Rollason, Audit and Risk Manager Tel: 01926 412679 e-mail garryrollason@warwickshire.gov.uk and

7. Recognising Good Financial Practice in Schools.

Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development.

This report makes proposals for more formal recognition and sharing of good financial practice in schools.

Recommendation

That the Committee:

- (1) considers whether a more formal presentation of FMSIS certificates awarded to schools by the DCFA for good financial practices should be pursued, and
- (2) endorses proposals to improve the wider sharing of those practices.

For further information please contact Greta Needham, Head of Law and Governance Tel. 01926 416962 e-mail gretaneedham@warwickshire.gov.uk. and Garry Rollason, Audit and Risk Manager Tel: 01926 412679 e-mail garryrollason@warwickshire.gov.uk and

8. Any Other Business

which the Chair decides is urgent.

9. Report Containing Confidential or Exempt Information

To consider passing the following resolution:

‘That members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the item mentioned below on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of confidential or exempt information as defined in paragraphs 2 and 7 of the Local Government Act 1972’.

(NB. Copies of extracts describing exempt information are available in Warwickshire Libraries, the County Council Handbook and the Access to Information Register held in my office).

10. Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2007

Jim Graham
Chief Executive

Shire Hall,
Warwick
September 2007

Membership

Councillors Sarah Boad, Les Caborn, Mick Jones, Tim Naylor, Bob Stevens and John Vereker CBE.

Independent Members: John Bridgeman CBE, (Chair) and Mark Magowan.

If you have any questions about this agenda please contact Jean Hardwick, Principal Committee Administrator, Member Services, Performance and Development Directorate, Tel. 01926 412476 or e-mail petekeeley@warwickshire.gov.uk

Next meeting - 10:00 a.m. Monday 19 November 2007