

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Held at Council Chamber, Ryedale House, Malton
on Thursday 5 July 2012

Present

Councillors Arnold, Cussons, Mrs Hopkinson, Raper, Mrs Shields (Vice-Chairman),
Wainwright (Chairman) and Windress

In Attendance

Audrey Adnitt, Sarah Anderson, Amy Archer, Paul Cresswell, Alison Newham, Clare
Slater, Richard Smith and Anthony Winship

Minutes

156 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Hawkins and Ward.

The Chairman welcomed Amy Archer from Deloitte to her first meeting of the
Committee.

157 **Minutes of the meeting held on the 12 April 2012**

The minutes of the meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on the
12 April 2012 were presented.

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny
Committee held on the 12 April 2012 be approved and signed by the
Chairman as a correct record.

158 **Urgent Business**

The Chairman reported that there were no items to be dealt with at the
meeting as a matter of urgency by virtue of Section 100(B)(4)(b).

159 **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

160 **Standards Role for Overview & Scrutiny Committees and Standards
Issues**

The Council Solicitor submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to inform Members of the Committee of the new Standards Role for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was intended to promote and maintain high ethical standards within the Council and deal with Standards related issues.

In relation to the Independent Members, the Monitoring Officer had received an update which advised of a window of opportunity, which made it possible for the District Council to appoint existing members in the period up to the 24 July 2012. Former independent Members of the Standards Committee Mr Colin Langley and Mrs Gill Baker, had expressed an interest in continuing, and so the Committee **AGREED** to recommend their appointment to the next meeting of Full Council on the 12 July 2012.

Following a recent advertisement in the local press for Independent Members, Mr Good and Mr Dennison had submitted impressive applications, and Members considered it would be appropriate to recommend their appointment as Substitute Independent Members.

Resolved

- A. That members note Minutes No. 127 of the Annual Council meeting on 17 May 2012 attached as Annex 1 which allocated the ethical standards function to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee acting as a Corporate Governance Committee;
- B. That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approves the following action:
 - (i) That the Monitoring Officer ensures that all Members are informed of their duty to register interests;
 - (ii) That the Monitoring Officer prepare and maintain new Registers of Interests for the Council and all Parish and Town Councils within the District together with the Code of Conduct adopted by each Parish or Town Council and ensure that they are available for public inspection as required by the Localism Act 2011;
 - (iii) That the Register of Members' Financial and Other Interests form attached as Annex be approved;
 - (iv) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to arrange training for Members on Standards issues.
- C. That Members recommend Council to:-
 - i. Approve the terms of reference for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee acting as a Corporate Governance Committee.
 - ii. Appoint the following independent persons:
 - a) Mr Colin Langley and Mrs Gill Baker for a term of Four years;
 - b) Mr Good and Mr Dennison as Substitute Independent Members.

161 **New Members Code of Conduct**

The Council Solicitor submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to agree a final Code of Conduct to recommend to Council on the 12 July 2012.

Resolved

That the new Code of Conduct (appended at Annex 1) be recommended to Council for adoption.

162 **The Community Safety Plan 2012/13**

The Head of Corporate Services submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to present the 2012/13 Safer Ryedale Partnership Plan.

Resolved

That the report be received and considered.

163 **Ryedale Audit Planning Report 2012**

Mrs Anderson from Deloittes presented the 2012 Audit Planning Report which had been previously circulated.

Resolved

That the report be received.

164 **External Auditor Quarterly Progress Report**

Mrs Anderson from Deloittes presented the External Auditor Quarterly Progress Report (previously circulated).

Resolved

That the report be noted.

165 **Annual Report from the Head of Internal Audit**

The Head of Internal Audit submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to summarise the outcome of internal audit work undertaken in 2011/12 and provides an opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the council's internal control arrangements.

Resolved

- I. That the results on the audit and fraud work undertaken be noted.
- II. That the Head of Internal Audit's opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the council's internal control environment be noted.

166 **Annual Governance Statement**

The Corporate Director (s151) submitted a report (previously circulated) for Members to consider the Council's review of its system of internal control and approve the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011.

Resolved

That the Annual Governance Statement for inclusion in the Statement of Accounts be approved.

167 **Treasury Management Annual Report**

The Corporate Director (s151) submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to report on treasury management activities for the financial year 2011/12 in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

Resolved

- a. That the annual treasury report for 2011/12 be noted.
- b. That the actual 2011/12 prudential and treasury indicators in the report be recommended for approval to Full Council.

168 **Customer Complaints Received Quarter 4 - 2011/12**

The Business Support Manager submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to inform Members of the number and type of complaints received under the Council's complaint procedure for the period January – March 2012.

Resolved

That the report be received.

169 **Annual Report delivering the Councils Priorities**

The Head of Corporate Services submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to present the committee with the content of the Councils Annual Report of delivery against its priorities.

Resolved

That the report be received.

170 Attendance at Policy Committees

The Head of Corporate Services submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to provide Members with a draft rota for attendance to observe at policy committee meetings and to agree guidance to assist this process.

Resolved

That the rota for attendance at Policy Committees be agreed.

171 Scrutiny Reviews Progress Report - Supporting a Sustainable Community and Voluntary Sector

The Head of Corporate Services submitted a report (previously circulated) in order to present the progress of the scrutiny review currently being undertaken.

Members were reminded that the next Task Group meeting would take place on Thursday 19 July 2012, and representatives from other funding bodies had been invited to attend.

Resolved

That the progress made with the current scrutiny review be noted.

172 Decisions from other Committees

Decisions from the following Committees were submitted:

Commissioning Board held on the 7 June 2012
Policy & Resources held on the 21 June 2012

Resolved

That the list of decisions of the Commissioning Board held on the 7 June 2012 and the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 21 June 2012 be received.

173 Any other business that the Chairman decides is urgent.

There were no urgent items.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm