

Minutes of the Meeting of the FINANCE, RESOURCES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held:MONDAY, 14 JUNE 2004 at 5.30pm

<u>PRESENT:</u>

Councillor Bhatti - Chair

Councillor Draycott Councillor Hunt (for Cllr. Garrity)
Councillor Fitch (for Cllr. Karim) Councillor Renold
Councillor Willmott

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1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

There were no declarations.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Chief Finance Officer submitted a report reviewing progress in implementing the Council's Risk Management Strategy and seeking agreement and support of the Scrutiny Committee to the proposals set out within the report and inviting the Committee to make any comments on the report.

The Head of Internal Audit reported that there was an additional recommendation to be added to the report referring it to Procedures Working Party.

Members of the Committee enquired whether there was a timescale for ensuring each department had developed their own risk registers. The Head of Internal Audit commented that progress had been made and a basis for a Corporate Register exists.

RESOLVED:

(1) to endorse that the existing policy statement remains appropriate, as detailed at Appendix 1 and the roles and responsibilities as detailed in Appendix 2) remain appropriate;

- (2) that the use of a risk assessment matrix in all reports seeking significant decisions, be supported;
- (3) that the continued development of risk registers in each department, be supported;
- (4) that the designation of specific officers in all departments to be departmental risk officers with responsibility for progressing risk management and maintaining risk registers, including regular review and update by each department's management team, be supported;
- (5) that it be recommended that the Risk Management Fund be used as pump priming money for the Departmental Risk Officers, to be allocated to departments with reference to the amount of operational risk faced by each, the allocation of funds to be managed by the Corporate Risk Management Group;
- (6) that it be recommended that the Procedures Working Party considers and recommends to the Council the changes to the Finance Procedure Rules set out in Appendix 4;
- (7) that the action plan for 2004/05 as detailed in Appendix 5, be noted;
- (8) that the Communication Strategy as detailed in Appendix 6, be noted.