

MINUTES OF THE JOINT AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, HADLEIGH ON
MONDAY 17 AUGUST 2015 AT 10.00 A.M

PRESENT: **BABERGH** **MID SUFFOLK**

Sue Ayres
Tina Campbell
Sian Dawson
John Hinton
David Rose
William Shropshire
(Chairman)
John Ward

Elizabeth Gibson-Harries
Lavinia Hadingham
Glen Horn
John Matthissen
Suzie Morley
Kevin Welsby
Jill Wilshaw

12 SUBSTITUTES AND APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tony Bavington and Penny Otton.

13 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

14 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to references to 'Full Circle' in Minute No. 7 being amended to read 'Funding Circle.'

15 PETITIONS

None received.

16 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None received.

17 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

None received.

18 JOINT ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2014/15

The Interim Corporate Manager – Financial Services introduced the Joint Annual Treasury Management Report 2014/15 (Paper JAC58). In response to a question from a Member, it was agreed that the format of the Report would be reviewed for future years, with a view to including an executive summary if this is compatible with the prescriptive format required. In the meantime, Members were referred to paragraph 8 of Paper JAC58, which gave an overview of the Report's contents.

RECOMMENDED TO BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL AND MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

That the Treasury Management activity for the year 2014/15, as set out in Paper JAC58 and its Appendices, be noted. Further that it be noted that performance was in line with the Prudential Indicators set for 2014/15.

Note: It is a requirement of the legislation that the Annual Treasury Management Report is submitted to the Full Council for noting.

19 COMPLAINTS MONITORING REPORT

Caroline Whatling, Deputy Monitoring Officer, introduced Paper [JAC59](#) updating Members on Code of Conduct complaints received by the Monitoring Officer.

She asked Members to refer to the relevant one of the two Deputy Monitoring Officers regarding a particular complaint if they required further information as none of those listed in the report was being handled by her.

RESOLVED

That the content of Paper JAC59 be noted.

20 UPDATE ON COMPLIANCE WITH PART 7 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011

Caroline Whatling presented Paper [JAC60](#) which updated Members on compliance with the Localism Act.

Members were aware that all Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councillors had completed their Register of Interest forms but that a number of Parish Council forms remained outstanding and these continue to be followed up by the Monitoring Officer and her deputies. In this connection, it was noted that Redlingfield has a Parish Meeting, not a Parish Council as incorrectly shown in paragraph 8.5 of Paper JAC60.

In response to a query about 'plain English' and use of the e-form process by Parish / Town clerks, Ms Whatling will contact SALC about the wording of its form. Parishes are being encouraged, and helped, to use the e-form solution.

RESOLVED

That the measures taken to comply with the requirements within Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011, as outlined in Paper JAC60, be noted.

21 FORWARD PLAN

Members noted that the Standards Monitoring Report would be included in the agenda for the October meeting and that a six-monthly update on the CCLA / Funding Circle investments will be added to the Plan, beginning with the meeting scheduled for February 2016.

In a response to a reference to aspects of compliance with the Localism Act regarding the Councils' relationship with outside bodies such as the LEP, it was noted that these do not fall within the requirements of Chapter 7.

RESOLVED

That the content of Paper JAC61 and the updates reported at the meeting be noted.

22 COMMENCEMENT TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Chairman invited Members to put forward their views on preferred start times for future meetings of the Joint Committee. After a short discussion, a proposal for alternate morning and afternoon meetings was moved, and carried on being put to the vote.

RESOLVED

That, with immediate effect, meetings of the Joint Audit and Standards Committee shall commence at 10 a.m. when held at the offices of Babergh and at 5 p.m. when held at those of Mid Suffolk.

The business of the meeting was concluded at 11.00 a.m.

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Chairman