

Audit and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of a meeting held at County Hall
Colliton Park, Dorchester on 8 April 2014.

Present:-

Trevor Jones (Chairman)
Mike Byatt (Vice-Chairman)
Deborah Croney, Ian Gardner, David Harris and Peter Wharf.

Robert Gould (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources) and Rebecca Knox (Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding and Families) attended under Standing Order 54(1).

Officers:

Sam Fox-Adams (Senior Policy and Performance Manager), Mark Taylor (Head of Internal Audit, Insurance and Risk Management) and Helen Whitby (Principal Democratic Services Officer).

The Following officers attended for certain items, as appropriate:

John Alexander (Policy and Performance Manager), Andrew Archibald (Head of Adult Services), David Hill (Group Audit Manager, South West Audit Partnership), Peter Illsley (Head of Corporate Finance), Cyril Loveridge (Capital Programme Manager), Harry Mears (Associate Partner, KPMG), John Oldroyd (Manager, KPMG), Helen Owens (Group Manager, Consultation and Research) Peter Scarlett (Estate and Assets Manager), Helen Squibb (Head of Learning and Inclusion), Sara Tough (Director for Children's Services) and Sally White (Audit Manager, South West Audit Partnership).

(Note: These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on **10 June 2014**.)

Apology for Absence

66. An apology for absence was received from Lesley Dedman.

Code of Conduct

67. There were no declarations by members of any discloseable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

Minutes

68. The minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2014 were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising

Minute 49.3 – Local Authority Trading Company

69.1 Members noted that a report on the Local Authority Trading Company was yet to be scheduled for the work programme. A member who was unable to attend the last meeting asked to be provided with a copy of the Local Authority Trading Company update distributed at the meeting.

Minute 53.4 – Work Programme, Cabinet Forward Plans and Work Programmes of Overview Committees

69.2 With regard to whether any action had been taken to include the economy on the work programme for the Environment Overview Committee, it was reported that a report on the economy had been considered on 27 March 2014.

Minute 59.3 – Revenue Budget Monitoring 2013/14, including Forward Together (Residual Meeting Future Challenges update)

69.3 The Chairman drew attention to an email sent to members the previous day which gave more information about the current overspend on the SEN/COOS transport budget. Members remained concerned about the continuing overspend and agreed to raise this with the Director for Children's Services later in the meeting.

Minute 59.4 – Revenue Budget Monitoring 2013/14, including Forward Together (Residual Meeting Future Challenges update)

69.4 The Head of Corporate Finance stated that the Revenue Budget Monitoring report to be considered on 10 June 2014 would include an update on zero-based budgets.

Progress on Matters raised at Previous Meetings

70. The Committee considered a report by the Director for Corporate Resources which updated members of progress made following discussions at previous meetings.

Noted

Public Participation

Public Speaking

71.1 There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

72.2 There were no public statements received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Petitions

72.3 There were no petitions received in accordance with the County Council's petition scheme at this meeting.

Work Programme, Cabinet Forward Plans and Work Programmes of Overview Committees

74.1 The Committee considered its updated work programme, the Cabinet's Forward Plan for the meeting held on 9 April 2014, and the work programmes of the Adult and Community Services, Children's Services and Environment Overview Committees.

74.2 The Head of Corporate Finance reported that the final position with regard to the Icelandic Banks would be included in the next Treasury Management report. He also explained that the court action to recover debt had been concluded with the sum due paid with interest.

74.3 A question was raised as to whether the Committee would review the implementation and effectiveness of divisional budgets. Members were reminded that this was a pilot scheme which would be reviewed after nine months to determine whether it would continue for the next financial year.

Noted

External Audit Reports

75.1 The Committee considered a number of reports by KPMG in relation to the the Certification of Grants and Returns 2012/13 and the External Audit Plan 2013/14.

Certification of Grants and Returns 2012/13

75.2 The Manager, KPMG, stated that an unqualified audit opinion had been given for the Certification of Grants and Returns 2012/13 and these were in line with budgeted figures.

External Audit Plan 2013/14

75.3 The Associate Partner, KPMG, explained that the Plan set out the audit approach for 2013/14 and key risks for the authority. Any significant issues would be reported to the Committee's meeting on 10 June 2014, although there were no concerns at present. Attention was drawn to particular areas of focus – savings plans, accruals, the Dorset Development Partnership, Triennial review and the Pension Fund. The report also set out the Audit Fee, which remained unchanged from that reported in March 2013.

75.4 The Associate Partner was asked to comment on the potential impact of the County Council making the necessary savings. He confirmed that the County Council's financial plans were robust and there were no issues as far as value for money was concerned.

75.5 With regard to the Dorset Development Partnership and how a judgement could be made as to whether it was providing value for money, the Associate Partner did not believe that the Partnership had sold any properties up to 31 March 2014 and that whether it provided value for money was worthy of consideration. The Head of Internal Audit, Insurance and Risk Management reminded members that a report on the Partnership was due to be considered on 16 September 2014. The Vice Chairman stated that a full business case should be provided when asset disposal was being considered and asked where such matters would be reported. The Head of Corporate Finance explained that this would be included within the quarterly asset management reports the Committee received.

75.6 Reference was made to the Forward Together Programme which aimed to make the County Council use its resources more efficiently and reduce process. The External Auditors were asked what role they could play in this. The Associate Partner explained that their primary role was to sign off the County Council's financial statements, to provide assurance and bring attention to good practice in other local authorities. The Group Audit Manager, South West Audit Partnership, added that the Internal Auditors worked with KPMG to ensure that the County Council did not over-process. To this end the Internal Audit report later on the agenda indicated that some controls had been removed because they were unnecessary.

75.7 The Senior Policy and Performance Manager reminded members that their role was to scrutinise the roles of the External and Internal Auditors, how they worked together and how these related to Forward Together. He suggested the Committee review these roles and relationships.

75.8 The Chairman referred to a recent desktop review of the County Council's Annual Governance Statement by Grant Thornton and asked the External Auditors whether they had any concerns. The Head of Corporate Finance added that Grant Thornton's review had not taken into account any covering report or supporting information provided with the Statement. The Associate Partner reported that they had considered the report summary and conclusions and confirmed that they would not sign off the accounts if they were not satisfied with measures in place. Although the summary highlighted some minor issues which the County Council might or might not address, overall the External Auditors were of the opinion that the Committee struck the right balance. The Committee noted that the Annual

Governance Statement would be considered on 10 June 2014 and would include reference to the Grant Thornton recommendations and how these had been applied.

Noted

Delayed Transfers of Care

76.1 Further to minute 58.2 and the concerns raised at the last meeting about the potential for the County Council to be charged for delayed transfers of care, the Head of Adult Care assured members that this was not the case. Since 2003 the County Council and NHS partners had worked closely together to support people through hospital care and back into the community and the County Council had not been fined since that time. The challenge for the NHS was dealing with increased numbers of people attending Accident and Emergency Departments all year round and keeping their journey through hospital care and back into the community as effective as possible. To this end, ways to make the process more efficient and less cumbersome were being considered. Current performance at the end of February 2014 was 14.8 delays per 100,000 people as opposed to the target of 11 delays.

76.2 Attention was drawn to the fact that other County Councils were served by only one hospital, whereas Dorset was served by several hospitals, some of which were located in other local authority areas. The Head of Adult Care confirmed that delayed discharges would not result in costs for the County Council from any of these hospitals.

76.3 The Committee were reminded that scrutiny of delayed discharges was the responsibility of the Dorset Health Scrutiny Committee. With regard to whether there was any potential risk to the County Council, the Head of Adult Care assured members that the level of risk was low and that mechanisms were in place to improve the current performance.

Noted

Corporate Governance Framework – Annual Compliance Assessment 2013/14

77.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Corporate Resources which presented the draft Annual Compliance Assessment for 2013/14, this being a statutory requirement under the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

77.2 The Head of Corporate Finance explained that out of 82 aspects within the Annual Compliance Assessment, there were seven areas of partial compliance compared to nine the previous year. The report set out reasons for the partial assessments and actions being taken to improve compliance.

77.3 Members commented on individual references within the report. They particularly welcomed greater member involvement in the drafting of the Annual Compliance Assessment and the Annual Governance Statement from 2014/15, but asked that any panel established to undertake this role had clear aims. They noted that their views would be reported to the Governance Group's next meeting and the **panel's terms of reference would** be provided for the Audit and Scrutiny and the Standards and Governance Committees to scrutinise. It was also suggested that a small cross-party panel be formed to review Forward Together as this was currently Cabinet dominated and remote from the majority of elected members.

77.4 With regard to 6d and the need to improve communication with all sectors of the community, it was explained that the County Council would need to use a range of ways to communicate with as many different sections of Dorset's population as possible. Reference was made to the feedback from the Peer Review the previous day which highlighted a number of communications issues and it was suggested that more members be involved in the development of a communications plan. This needed to be progressed quickly

as it would be need to be agreed prior to consultation on any future service changes and the Committee would need to scrutinise the plan to ensure its effectiveness. The Senior Policy and Performance Manager reminded the Committee that they had requested a quarterly update on communications at their last meeting so that progress could be monitored. An action plan would be developed to address any recommendations arising from the recent Peer Review and this would be provided for the Committee to consider at their meeting on 10 June 2014.

77.5 Attention was drawn to 5d and e, where no actions were identified to provide members with the necessary skills to undertake their roles and responsibilities. This was even more important given the need for the authority to become more “member-led”.

77.6 One member highlighted the need for partnership working to be monitored effectively as there was no clarity as to whether partner organisations recognised this need and he thought that the Leaders and Chief Executives Group should reinforce this message. He also referred to the need for Overview Committees to undertake the scrutiny role more effectively with regard to performance monitoring especially with regard to contracts and overspends. The Head of Corporate Finance reminded the Committee that a report on the governance of outside bodies would be considered at the meeting on 16 September 2104.

Noted

Internal Audit Quarterly Report

78.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Corporate Resources which summarised the work of the Council’s Internal Audit Service and provided an overall positive assurance opinion on the Council’s management of risk and the systems on internal control, a schedule of audits completed during the period, details of audit reviews which had either received a “Partial Assurance Opinion” or where risks had been identified which were considered to represent potential significant corporate risk to the Council

78.2 The Group Audit Manager presented the report highlighting action taken with regard to accounts payable; that layers of controls had been stripped from the system where these were unnecessary; SWAP performance; that the current audit plan would be completed on time; the low response rate for questionnaires and how this was to be addressed; progress on the Audit Plan 2013/14; and the two areas of partial assurance where recommendations had been agreed and implemented.

Resolved

79.1 That the work undertaken by SWAP, the positive conclusion reached that risks are generally well managed and the systems of internal control are working effectively be noted.

79.2 That progress made by managers in implementing agreed actions on issues relating to areas of potential significant corporate risk to the Council be noted.

79.3 That those audit assignments which have been given a “Partial” assurance opinion, but are not considered to present significant risks to the Council’s overall operations be noted.

79.4 That those audit assignments which have been allocated either a “Substantial” or “Reasonable” assurance opinion, where it has generally been concluded that controls are operating satisfactorily be noted.

Internal Audit Plan 2014-15

80.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director for Corporate Resources regarding the Internal Audit Plan 2014-15, together with an explanation of the various factors, processes and drivers that had been taken into account during its compilation. The report also incorporated an “Internal Audit Charter” which set out the operational relationship

between the County Council and the South West Audit Partnership (SWAP). This governed the operational work of the internal audit service in delivering against the audit plan.

80.2 The Group Audit Manager explained the audit process for the forthcoming year which supported the work of the Forward Together Programme. SWAP officers now sat on various project groups to ensure appropriate controls were in place and they were involved in regular meetings about the Forward Together Programme. The audit plan had some flexibility and a number of additional audits had been identified should time allow.

80.3 The Chairman raised a concern about the increasing number of schools turning academy and whether adequate controls were in place. The Group Audit Manager explained that a selection of schools would be audited under a number of themes and some would be visited as well. Although SWAP audited some academies, and undertook some unofficial visits, they were not responsible for all of them. The Head of Internal Audit, Insurance and Risk Management added that contingencies were in place and that the Children's Services Financial Team could look at particular establishments to ensure coverage was responsive of need. The Chairman asked **that an update be provided for the Committee's next meeting so that they could scrutinise the measures in place.**

80.4 Attention was drawn to the timing of audits in the Adult and Community Services Directorate and whether, given the significant changes and the risk these posed, they should be brought forward. The Group Audit Manager explained that the timing had been agreed with the Corporate Management Team, but flexibility in the audit plan meant these could be brought forward.

80.5 With regard to whether the Children's Services budget for school transport which was continually overspent was to be audited, the Group Audit Manager explained that it would be included within the whole authority review of transport. The Audit Manager added that a review had been previously carried out and this had informed later work. Officers would provide a copy of the report for members' information. In view of the increasing number of schools going academy and the impact this might have on school transport, the Group Audit Manager agreed to provide regular updates for the Committee.

Resolved

81. That reports be provided as set out in minutes 80.3 and 80.5 above.

Draft Corporate Plan 2014-15

82.1 The Committee considered an updated version of the draft Corporate Plan 2014-15. They had previously considered this at their meeting on 20 March 2014. The draft Corporate Plan was to be considered by the Cabinet the following day and by the County Council on 24 April 2014.

82.2 The Policy and Performance Manager reported that the draft Corporate Plan had been revised in the light of comments received. It was shorter, more focused and referred to safeguarding those who were most vulnerable. Comments were welcomed and would be reported to the Cabinet the following day.

82.3 Members considered the new draft to be a great improvement. It would provide the means by which the public could see the County Council's focus, key objectives and challenges. The test would be whether it was understood by the public. One member stated that it would be used by elected members to explain to their communities what the Council was trying to do and she thought that it would perform this role well.

82.4 One member suggested that the words “year round” be added to “promote Dorset as a good business location” so that it reflected Dorset as a location for tourism all the year round.

82.5 It was confirmed that the Corporate Plan was embedded within the Communications Strategy.

Resolved

83. That the draft Corporate Plan 2014-15 be supported, subject to the amendment set out in minute 82.4 above.

Questions from Members of the Council

84. No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20(2).

Outside Bodies

85.1 The County Council’s representative on the South West Audit Partnership’s Board had provided information and this would be sent to members outside of the meeting.

85.2 One member emphasised the need for members who represented the County Council on various bodies or who were Member Champions to provide regular updates to the County Council. The Principal Democratic Services Officer explained that each of the Overview Committees provided members with an opportunity to report on their involvement with various bodies. The Senior Policy and Performance Manager added that this would be addressed in the Action Plan to address the findings from the Peer Review the previous day.

Noted

Forward Together – Community Engagement Programme

86.1 The Committee considered a report by the Chief Executive which provided details of the community engagement programme to be embarked on during Summer 2014.

86.2 The Group Manager – Consultation and Research explained that the content of the community engagement programme which would run during the Summer 2014 was currently being scoped. It would cover three broad areas – finance, outcomes and how the County Council worked – and would comprise roadshows and meetings with stakeholders and would use digital methods to communicate with as many people as possible. Many local authorities had undertaken similar programmes and the County Council had used this information and experience to inform their programme.

86.3 With regard to member involvement, it was hoped that senior managers, Cabinet members and local members would be available to attend the roadshows. An initial briefing for all members would be provided on 24 April 2014 following the County Council meeting. The purpose of the roadshows would be to listen to people, their concerns and priorities. The communications plan would be finalised shortly, with as many channels as possible being used to publicise the roadshows. A member commented that local members wanted to be involved in this and that Cabinet members should not necessarily lead the roadshows. The Group Manager recognised the key role local members would have in communicating with their communities but senior managers and Cabinet members would need to be involved too.

86.4 With regard to what was being done to reach those in school and post 18-25 year olds, the Group Manager explained that the Youth Parliament would be used to reach those at school and digital media to reach the 18-25 years olds. The Citizens’ Panel would also have a role and any results would be weighted demographically.

86.5 One member explained that she had met with communities in her electoral division to explain the “Recycle for Dorset” scheme. This had been well attended and feedback had been positive. As a local member she would be happy to run the roadshows herself. The Group Manager explained that members would need the right tools to do this and there would be a need for a consistent approach and collection of data across the County. There would be forty sessions in total, both morning and afternoons, in 20 locations across Dorset. In order to avoid subjects like pot holes monopolising the sessions, the public would be reminded that the sessions centred upon the transformation programme. This would be tested during the next few weeks and members would be involved in this process.

86.6 One member drew attention to the fact that as a local member he had not been contacted about locations within his electoral division; that local members should be involved from the outset as they were aware of hot topics in their areas and this would ensure that officers were prepared for this; and that Cabinet members should have a lesser role to play. He thought that local members should have the opportunity to lead the roadshows and would be able to advise as to the best locations.

Noted

Quarterly Asset Management Update

87.1 The Committee considered a joint report by the Directors for Corporate Resources and Environment which provided a quarterly update on progress against the asset management objectives and on progress with the Buildings, Highways, Waste Management, ICT and Fleet Management programmes. It also included an overview of the financial performance of the whole capital programme. A more detailed version of the report had been considered by the Cabinet on 19 March 2014 when all the recommendations had been agreed.

87.2 The Capital Programme Manager presented the report highlighting that the key objective of reducing the size of the property estate (non-schools) by 25% over a five year period ending March 2015 would not be achieved. It was anticipated that 18% would be achieved at that time, with 25% being achieved by March 2016. He reported that the future of Bovington Park was to be considered by the Corporate Management Team before the Cabinet made a decision as to whether it should be retained as an asset. Attention was also drawn to the £919k overspend on building projects and applications for additional funding the County Council had made to address damage to roads as a result of the recent adverse weather conditions and the impact this had on the capital programme.

87.3 With regard to the ambitious target of reducing non-schools assets by 75% over a five year period, the Estate and Assets Manager clarified that the Property Rationalisation Strategy could potentially transfer the 25% disposal to 25% retention, but it had never been the intention to dispose of 75% of the County Council's assets. The Chairman who had been sceptical of achieving the 25% target asked that this be clarified within the next Quarterly Monitoring Report.

87.4 With regard to the asset disposal, the Chairman referred to the External Auditors comment that at the end of March 2014 no assets had been disposed of through the Dorset Development Partnership. He asked for an update to be provided for the meeting on 10 June 2014, as the full report was scheduled for September 2014.

87.5 The Chairman also referred to an instance whereby the County Council's salvage strategy had not been followed with regard to the disposal of schools assets and he sought assurance that there was a clear policy to be followed in such cases. The Estate and Assets Manager explained that there was a separate close down procedure when a property was vacated and this covered part of the salvage strategy.

87.6 Another member referred to a project at Pimperne School where the local community had worked to overcome obstacles only to be jeopardised by adverse weather conditions which had delayed the project and put it in doubt. The Capital Programme Manager explained that the cost of the delay was not yet known and there were on-going negotiations with the contractor. The member asked to be informed of progress.

87.7 With regard to Public Internal Access Project, a question was asked as to whether this would continue and officers agreed to follow this up outside of the meeting.

87.8 Members noted that the County Council's performance with regard to the Capital Programme was average compared to other authorities. However, there was a lack of data available to make comparisons between authorities so figures were not as robust as they were previously. This was the only data available and it was anticipated that there would be improved performance due to the Optimum Bias Policy.

87.8 Attention was drawn to the need for an additional post to implement the corporate landlord model, although this could be a member of staff transferred from another service. With regard to the disposal of assets, property valuations were ratified by an independent valuer and, if the market was likely to change and property value increase, then properties could be retained to ensure the best price was obtained.

Noted

Performance of Children's Services

88.1 Further to minute 58.7 and concerns expressed at the previous meeting that agreed safeguarding targets were currently not being met and the potential risk this posed for the County Council, the Chairman welcomed the Director for Children's Services to her first meeting and asked her to provide an update on the current situation.

88.2 The Director explained that the concern related to the number of children who were subject to a second child protection plan within a 12 month period. This was an important indicator and raised a number of questions about the robustness of decisions to de-register children and the effectiveness of work plans after de-registration. There had been an overall increase in the number of children subject to a child protection plan from 243 last year to 292 now, with 24 children being the subject of a second plan within a year. An audit of all 24 children was to be undertaken in June 2014 and a report on the findings would be provided. A similar audit was carried out some eighteen months ago when there was no obvious patterns or themes and all decisions to de-register were considered to be sound. However, the new audit was welcomed in view of the increased number of children on the child protection register and the current increase in the number of children entering care. Mechanisms were currently being reviewed for robustness, given the number of recent changes to senior management staff within the Directorate and changes to roles and responsibilities, and a new monthly audit process was being implemented. She was also to review performance information reported because she felt this could be better.

82.2 One member asked questions about the level of risk and whether there was a link between increased demand and social worker vacancies. The Director stated that the number of social worker vacancies was low but these took a long time to fill because of the lengthy HR process. Work was being progressed to speed up this process and a recruitment campaign was being considered especially as Dorset was an expensive place to live and attracting applicants was difficult.

82.3 With regard to the increased numbers of children in care and those under child protection plans, the Director confirmed that Dorset followed the national trend and that a Policy Development Panel was currently looking at this issue.

82.4 Reference was made to the recent court case of a young man in Weymouth who was being tried for the death of his mother and a question asked about the support he and his family had been provided with. The Director explained that the young man and his family had received support from the service and lessons had been learned about the effective multi agency working and non-school attendance. Issues had been reported to and would be monitored by the Safeguarding Board.

82.5 With regard to member engagement on the Safeguarding Board, it was explained that this body was a partnership which was independent of the County Council and had an independent chairman. The Board monitored child protection and child safety. County Council officers provided administrative support to it and their annual report was considered by the Children's Overview Committee.

82.6 One member referred to recent safeguarding training which he had found very useful and asked about access to safeguarding training for members. The Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding and Families said this could be accessed on line and should be available for all members. Training was also being arranged by district councils and she asked that any members attending these sessions should report on their effectiveness. She also explained that links and cross over between the Safeguarding Board, the Community Safety Partnership, the Children's Trust Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board were being considered.

82.7 In response to whether the service was prepared for an unannounced visit the Director stated that she welcomed these. The service was regulated and a review of current arrangements and mechanisms for performance monitoring in the light of Forward Together and the change of the regulatory framework had been carried out. She welcomed unannounced visits to check quality of frontline services and to ensure they were provided in accordance with the framework. The Chairman stated that the Committee wanted to ensure that the Director had the necessary support and resources to protect vulnerable children in Dorset.

82.8 With regard to the continuing overspend on SEN/COOS transport referred to earlier in the meeting, the Head of Learning and Inclusion explained that joint work had been undertaken with officers in the Environment Directorate to improve the current situation. Previous problems had related to poor management information but the Environment Directorate would soon have a new IT system which would provide better management information. Children's Services were also working more closely with families to provide them with the options available before a decision was made about what form of transport support they needed and how their child's independent travel skills would be supported. Opportunities for high cost travellers to share arrangements and costs were being explored, along with opportunities for families to move to personal budgets. She stated that there were potential efficiencies to be made and that the new system would aim to provide children with a better travel experience to school.

82.9 The Committee noted that there were approximately 900 children for whom transport was provided and that the focus was now on the top 30, ie those with the highest travel costs. The total number of children requiring transport was not increasing, whereas the cost of the transport (eg fuel was. It was hoped that by commissioning transport smartly and working closer with families, costs could be reduced. The Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding and Families stated that the working relationship between the two

Directorates had improved greatly. The difficulties with regard to the IT systems had been overcome and officers in school transport, admissions and procurement now worked more closely together to get children to school.

82.10 Members wanted assurance that mechanisms put in place would lead to improvement and that appropriate management action would be taken if this did not occur. Concerns were also expressed about the implications for the Forward Together programme if there were barriers to working across teams and technical issues and the impact on the County Council's ability to deliver services. The Director stated that she was taking a "one council" approach and concentrating on outcomes for children in Dorset. This was a shared responsibility and breaking down any barriers was the only goal. Any recommendations would be considered by the Children's Services Overview Committee, prior to recommendation to the Cabinet for decision.

82.11 Members noted that future performance would be monitored through the quarterly performance monitoring reports.

Noted

Exempt Business

Exclusion of the Public

Resolved

83. That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for minute numbers 44 to 45 because it was likely that if members of the public were present, there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A and the public interest in withholding the information outweighed the public interest in disclosing that information

Durlston Castle Catering Arrangements

84.1 Further to minute 45.4, the Senior Policy and Performance Manager reported on progress with the recommendations made at the meeting on 18 February 2014. A further update would be given at the appropriate time.

84.2 The Chairman and other members were unhappy with the progress reported and the time taken to implement the recommendations. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Lead Conservative Member would agree a way forward outside of the meeting.

Noted

Meeting duration: 10.00am to 13.45pm