

**COUNTY DURHAM AND DARLINGTON FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

A **MEETING** of the **AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE** held at Fire Service Headquarters, on **18 October 2018 at 10.00 am**.

**PRESENT:** Cllr J Turnbull in the Chair  
**DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL:** Cllrs B Avery, D Bell, L Marshall  
**DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL:** Cllr C Johnson  
**OFFICERS:** T Hope  
**AUDIT:** S Carter, C Dearden and G Barker

**Item**

**1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr M Simmons.

**2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 July 2018 were agreed as a true record.

**3 Annual Audit Letter**

G Barker presented the report which updated the committee on the audit of the financial statements, value for money and statutory reporting. The committee discussed the report.

The Chair thanked Mazars and officers for their hard work in producing the report.

**ACTION:** Members **noted** the report.

**4 Corporate Governance Action Plan Update**

T Hope presented an update of the progress being made in relation to the actions arising from the corporate action governance plan. The action plan tabled in appendix A, which reflects the position in relation to the action points as at 30 September 2018, was discussed in detail.

The committee discussed the findings and associated risks with the plan.

**ACTION:** Members **noted** the contents of the report and the ongoing work in relation to the corporate governance action plan.

**5 Corporate Risk Register – Position at 30 September 2018**

T Hope presented the report and asked members to consider the corporate risk register. No risks had been added or removed from the register. One risk has increased in severity and two risks had decreased in severity.

Cllr Johnson queried risk and residual scores, T Hope explained the scoring system and the monitoring undertaken internally to manage the risks.

**ACTION:** Members **considered** the corporate risk register.

**6 Internal Audit Progress Report**

S Carter advised members on the detailed work undertaken between 1 April 2018 and 30 September 2018.

The committee considered the progress against planned work, assurance levels, summary of work completed and performance indicators for 2018/19.

**ACTION:** Members **considered** the outturn position in delivering the internal audit plan for 2018/19.

**7 External Audit Progress Report**

C Dearden presented the report which updated the committee on the key audit stages for 2018/19, national publications and guidance for auditors. The committee discussed the report.

**ACTION:** Members **noted** the report.

There being no other business the meeting was closed.