

MORAY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting of the Grampian Valuation Joint Board

Friday, 30 June 2023

Council Chambers, Council Office, High Street, Elgin, IV30 1BX

PRESENT

Councillor Desmond Bouse, Councillor Isobel Davidson, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Dell Henrickson, Councillor Neil MacGregor, Councillor Marc Macrae, Councillor Ciaran McRae, Councillor Sam Payne, Councillor Stephen Smith, Councillor Iain Taylor, Councillor Lynn Thomson, Councillor Sonya Warren, Councillor Judy Whyte

SUBSTITUTES

Councillor Louise McAllister (for Councillor Seamus Logan)

APOLOGIES

Councillor Seamus Logan

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance at the above meeting were Depute Assessor and ERO (Aberdeen and Moray), Depute Assessor and ERO (Aberdeenshire), Principal Admin Officer, Angela Pieri, External Auditor and the Democratic Services Manager.

1. Chair

Councillor Donald Gatt, as convenor of the Board, chaired the meeting.

2. Declaration of Member's Interests

In terms of Standing Order 25 and the Councillor's Code of Conduct, the Board noted that there were no declarations from Members who were present at the meeting where any item of business in which they have any financial or other interest is to be dealt with.

3. Minutes of meeting - 27 January 2023

The minute of the meeting of 27 January 2023 was submitted and approved by the Board.

4. Grampian Valuation Joint Board - External Audit Plan 2022-23

Angela Pieri, External Auditor, Grant Thornton introduced herself to the Board and went through the salient points in the External Audit Plan and Informing the Audit Risk Assessment for 2022-23.

5. Unaudited Annual Accounts for 2022-23

A report by the Treasurer to the board asked the Board to consider the unaudited Annual Accounts for the Grampian Valuation Joint Board for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Following consideration the Board agreed to note the unaudited Annual Accounts of the Grampian Valuation Joint Board for the year ending 31 March 2023.

6. Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement 1 April to 31 May 2023

A report by the Treasurer to the Board asked the Board to consider the Revenue Budget Monitoring Statement for the period 1 April to 31 May 2023.

Following consideration the Board agreed to:

- i) note the Revenue Monitoring Statement to 31 May 2023; and
- ii) approve the relocation in principle and to authorise the Assessor to enter into negotiations with Aberdeenshire Council on the detailed terms of the lease.

7. Electoral Registration

A report by the Principal Admin Officer updated the Board on current developments in Electoral Registration.

Councillor Smith highlighted some issues with the GVJB website in relation to forms of Voter ID.

In response the Principal Admin Officer confirmed that a number of updates need to be carried out on the website and these issues will also be addressed.

Following consideration the Board agreed to note the content of the report.

8. Governance

A report by the Depute Assessor and ERO (Aberdeen and Moray) advised the Board of equalities mainstreaming activities.

Following consideration the Board agreed to note the content of the report.

9. Risk Management

A report by the Depute Assessor and ERO (Aberdeen and Moray) reported to the Board on Risk Management.

Following consideration the Board agreed to note the risk register and plans for the future.

10. Valuation Roll and Council Tax

A report by the Depute Assessor and ERO (Aberdeen and Moray) provide an operational update on the valuation services provided by the Assessor including the performance levels achieved during 2022/23.

Following consideration the Board agreed to note the report.

11. Complaints Handling Performance

A report by the Depute Assessor and ERO (Aberdeenshire) reported on complaints handling performance.

The Board joined the Chair in commending the low number of complaints received despite the high level of work being carried out within the Board.

Following consideration the Board agreed to note the complaints handling performance.

12. Staff Vacancies Recruitment and Upskilling Existing Staff

A report by the Depute Assessor and ERO (Aberdeenshire) updated the Board on the current level of staff vacancies, recruitment and the upskilling of existing staff.

Following consideration the Board agreed to note the contents of the report.

13. Question Time

The Board noted that no questions were raised.