

MORAY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday, 16 February 2022

Remote Locations via Video Conference,

PRESENT

Councillor George Alexander, Councillor Frank Brown, Councillor John Cowe, Councillor John Divers, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Graham Leadbitter, Councillor Marc Macrae, Councillor Aaron McLean, Councillor Shona Morrison, Councillor Sonya Warren

APOLOGIES

Councillor Tim Eagle, Councillor Ryan Edwards, Councillor Maria McLean, Councillor Walter Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance at the above meeting were the Chief Executive, Head of Governance, Strategy and Performance, Internal Audit Manager and Tracey Sutherland, Committee Services Officer.

1. Chair

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Donald Gatt.

2. Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests *

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, there were no declarations from Group Leaders or Spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members will vote on any item on the agenda or any declarations of Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

3. Minute of Meeting 15 December 2021

The minute of the meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee dated 15 December 2021 was submitted and approved.

4. Written Questions **

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

5. National Fraud Initiative 2020-21

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) advised the Committee of the outcomes from the Council's participation in the National Fraud Initiative for 2020/21.

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

6. Work of the Internal Audit Section 16 December 21 to 16 February 22

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) advised the Committee on the work of the Internal Audit Section for period from 16 December 2021 to 16 February 2022.

Following consideration in which Officers answered questions on a full review of Self Directed Support and unspent monies the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

7. Question Time ***

Councillor Macrae sought clarification on whether there were any plans to audit the financial side of Care Homes when a client dies.

In response, the Internal Audit Managers confirmed that this has been looked at in the past but he would discuss the issue further with the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care for possible inclusion in future audit plans.

Councillor Alexander sought an updated on the re-settlement of Afghan families. He further sought clarification on whether the Council Leader had written to the Scottish Government regarding the Early Learning and Childcare funding.

In response the Chief Executive confirmed that an update on the re-settlement of the families will be presented to Group Leaders in the next couple of weeks.

The Council Leader responded with regards to the letter to the Scottish Government by confirming that a draft letter had been written. He further added that the issue had been progressing in other ways but confirmed he would circulate the draft to Members following the meeting. The Chief Executive confirmed that he was also tasked with writing to the Scottish Government and that his letter would complement that of the Council Leader's.