

Decisions of the Governance and Audit Committee held on Friday 17 April 2015

These decisions are published for information in advance of the publication of the Minutes

DECISIONS:

1 MANAGEMENT CONTROLS IMPLEMENTED RELATING TO HOUSING BENEFIT SUBSIDY

Resolved-

That the approach taken to the management checking of Housing Benefit claims that include earned income and the progress made be welcomed.

(Martin Stubbs – 01274 432056)

2 PROTOCOL FOR FILMING AND RECORDING OF MEETINGS

Resolved-

That the draft Protocol For Filming and Recording of Council Meetings as contained in Appendix 1 to Document “AP” be recommended to Council for adoption.

Action: Assistant City Solicitor

(Dermot Pearson – 01274 432496)

3 REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA) – POLICY, USE AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY – ANNUAL REVIEW

Resolved-

(1) That the duties placed on the Council under the Human Rights Act 1998 were considered in the context of this report.



- (2) That the Council's continued compliance with RIPA and the OSC (Office of the Surveillance Commissioner) inspection in July 2013 and the completed implementation of the RIPA training programme be noted.
- (3) That the 2015 WYLAW (West Yorkshire Law) programme of training of Officers (in order to continue to raise awareness) and enforcement officers under RIPA be noted.
- (4) That the authorisation of covert surveillance techniques under Human Rights Act 1998 open to a local authority in exceptional circumstances i.e. when the offending falls beneath the serious offence threshold or in a disciplinary context be disapproved.
- (5) That the Assistant City Solicitor provides a report to the Committee on the RIPA implications of using social media in criminal investigations.

Action: Assistant City Solicitor

(Richard Winter – 01274 431073)

4. AUDIT STRATEGY MEMORANDUM

Resolved –

That the Audit Strategy Memorandum for the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council for 2014/15 was considered.

(Steve Appleton – 01274 431995)

5. EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE 2014/15 AUDITS OF CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL AND WEST YORKSHIRE PENSION FUND

Resolved-

- (1) That the external audit progress report and briefing was considered and welcomed.
- (2) That a response be provided to External Audit by 30 June 2015 to questions about arrangements to prevent and detect fraud and to comply with applicable law and regulations after discussion with the Committee at its first meeting of the new Municipal Year.

Action: Finance Director

(Steve Appleton – 01274 431995)

6 REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION

Resolved

That the amendment to Article 9 of the Constitution set out at paragraph 3.8 of Document “AT” be recommended to Council.

Action: Assistant City Solicitor

(Dermot Pearson – 01274 432496)

7. CONTRACT STANDING ORDERS

Resolved -

- (1) That the proposed amendments to Contracts Standing Orders listed in Appendix 1 to Document “AU” be recommended to Council for adoption and implementation.**
- (2) That the Assistant City Solicitor reports any recommendations to Council and ensures the agreed amendments are implemented.**
- (3) That the Assistant City Solicitor be granted delegated authority to make consequential amendments to the Constitution as a result of the recommendations approved by Full Council.**

Action: Assistant City Solicitor

(Roy Barraclough – 01274 432670)

FROM: Dermot Pearson
Assistant City Solicitor
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

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