Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Friday 17th June 2016

Present: Councillor Hilary Richards (Chair)

Councillor John Taylor Councillor Linda Wilkinson

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were received on behalf on Councillors Palfreeman, K Pinnock and Stewart-Turner.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – That the item be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

3 Interests

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

Determined.

5 Deputations/Petitions

None received.

6 Annual Report on Treasury Management 2015/2016

The Committee received a report which set out an annual review of Treasury Management activities for the 2015-2016 financial year. The report provided an overview of (i) borrowing and investment strategy 2015/2016 (ii) economy and interest rates (iii) investment activity (iv) borrowing requirement and depot management (v) trends in treasury management activity (vi) revenue budget monitoring and (vii) risk and compliance issues.

It was noted that, as there were currently no meetings of Cabinet scheduled, the report would be submitted direct to the meeting of Council on 29th June 2016.

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RESOLVED - That the review of Treasury Management Activity 2015/2016 be received and noted.

7 External Audit - Update Report

The Committee received the External Audit Progress Report and Technical Update, dated June 2016. The report set out an overview of the work of the external audit, and highlighted technical issues which may impact upon the audit process which included (i) the PSAA Publication of 2016-2017 work programme and scale of fees (ii) changes to arrangements for the exercise of electors' rights in 2015-2016 (iii) the NAO Report in respect of English Devolution and (iv) the new Local Audit Framework.

The report also set out an overview of 2015/2016 audit deliverables.

RESOLVED - That the External Audit Progress Report and Technical Update be received and noted.

8 Update on the progress of the Final Accounts Process for 2015/2016, including Bad Debt Write Offs

The Committee received a report which set out an update on the progress of the final accounts process for 2015/2016, including Bad Debt Write Offs. Paragraph 2.3 of the report set out the main changes to the accounts for 2015/2016, which included the number of companies in the Council's Group Accounts being reduced to Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing (as a subsidiary) and Kirklees Stadium Ltd (as a joint venture).

The appendix to the report detailed the debts written off in 2015/2016. This illustrated that £6.8mil of debt had been written off in 2015/2016, equating to 1.67%, which had been an improvement on the previous year when £8.9mil, equating to 2.24%, had been written off. The Committee also noted information regarding debt recovery of Council Tax, Business Rates, and Housing Rents, which were set out at paragraph 2.9 of the report.

RESOLVED - That the update on the progress of the final accounts process for 2015/2016, including Bad Debts Write Offs, be received and noted.