

Lothian Valuation Joint Board

Edinburgh, 29 March 2010

Present: -

City of Edinburgh Council – Councillors McIvor (Convener), Buchan, Burns, Rust, Tymkewycz (substituting for Councillor Beckett) and Wheeler.

East Lothian Council – Councillor Bell.

Midlothian Council – Councillor Beattie (Vice-Convener).

1 Minutes

Decision

- 1) To note the minute of the Lothian Valuation Joint Board Joint Consultative Group of 5 February 2010.
- 2) To approve the minute of the Lothian Valuation Joint Board of 5 February 2010 as a correct record.

2 Quarterly Progress Report to the Joint Board

The Board considered a progress report by the Assessor updating members on the service overview and priorities, current issues and the future direction of the Joint Board.

The Electoral Commission had published their second annual report in March 2010. Information on the Board's self-assessment against each performance standard was set out in the Appendix to the Assessor's report.

Decision

To note the quarterly progress report.

(Reference – report by the Assessor 17 March 2010, submitted)

3 Annual Audit Plan 2009/10

A summary was given of the key challenges and risks facing the Joint Board and setting out the audit work which Audit Scotland proposed to undertake during 2009/10.

The plan included an audit of the financial statements and a review and assessment of the Board's governance and performance arrangements in a number of key areas including a review of internal audit and the Statement of Assurance on Corporate Governance.

Decision

To note the annual audit plan for 2009/10.

(Reference – report by Audit Scotland 23 February 2010, submitted)

4 Corporate Governance – Register of Members' Interests

Audit Scotland had recommended the establishment of a separate register of interests for members of the Lothian Valuation Joint Board. This proposal was intended to avoid members putting themselves in the position of having a conflict of interests.

Decision

- 1) To insert a link against each member on the Lothian Valuation Joint Board website to the Register of Members' Interests on the relevant constituent Council website.
- 2) To note that the Chief Executive and Clerk would write annually to each member reminding them that the Register should include any specific interests relating to their membership of the Joint Board.
- 3) To advise Audit Scotland of the action taken.

(Reference – Lothian Valuation Joint Board 7 December 2009 (item 4); report by the Chief Executive and Clerk 29 March 2010, submitted)