

# **Lothian Valuation Joint Board**

**Edinburgh, 22 June 2015**

**Present:**

**City of Edinburgh Council** – Councillors Work (Convener), Doran, Ricky Henderson, McInnes and McVey.

**East Lothian Council** – Councillor McNeil.

**Midlothian Council** – Councillor Bryant.

**West Lothian Council** – Councillors McCarra and King.

## **1 Minute**

**Decision**

To approve the minute of the Lothian Valuation Joint Board of 16 March 2015 as a correct record.

## **2 Appointments**

Details were given on the new appointments to the Joint Board following resignation of a member from East Lothian Council and the City of Edinburgh Council.

**Decision**

- 1) To note the appointment of Councillor John McNeil (East Lothian Council) in place of Councillor Norman Hampshire who had resigned.
- 2) To note the appointment of Councillor Deidre Brock (City of Edinburgh Council) in place of Councillor Sandy Howat who had resigned.

(Reference – report by the Chief Executive, submitted)

## **3 Unaudited Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2015**

The unaudited Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015 were presented. The accounts had been prepared in line with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting and contained the signed statement of responsibilities and balance sheet, governance statement and remuneration report. The outturn for the year showed an underspend of £0.175m.

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**Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To note that the Annual Accounts for 2014/15 would be re-presented to the Board on completion of the external audit and that a decision on the retention or refund of requisition would be required by the Board at this time.

(Reference – report by the Treasurer, submitted)

**4 Internal Audit – Annual Report**

An update was given of the work undertaken by internal audit for the financial year 2014/15.

Internal Audit and the Lothian Valuation Joint Board management team had undertaken a review of the corporate governance arrangements within the Board against best practice and concluded that the arrangements were fully compliant. Action plans had been agreed with management on all recommendations made within the reports issued by the Internal Auditor and appropriate follow-up arrangements had been put in place.

A statement of assurance and annual governance statement had been issued.

**Decision**

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To note the Draft Annual Governance Statement as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

(Reference – report by the Principal Audit Manager, submitted)

**5 Treasury management Annual Report 2014-15**

The Treasurer presented the Annual Treasury Report for the financial year 2014/15. Included within the report was the Board's investment strategy and details of the interest accumulated over the year.

**Decision**

To note the Annual Report for 2014/15.

(Reference – report by the Treasurer, submitted)

**6 Performance Report 2014-15**

The Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer presented the annual performance report for 2014-15.

**Decision**

- 1) To note the Performance Report for 2014/15.

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- 2) To record the Board's thanks and appreciation to the Assessor and her staff for their hard work and commitment in ensuring that the services continued to be delivered to an extremely high standard.

(Reference – report by the Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer, submitted)