

AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

Report of the Chair of the Audit Committee

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report sets out the Audit Committee's activities during the past 12 months in connection with the financial year 2014/15.

2. RECOMMENDATION

To note the report of the Chair of Audit Committee on the activity of the Audit Committee.

3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

Background

- 3.1 The Audit Committee has met throughout the year. It held meetings on four occasions throughout the year in April, July, October 2014 and March 2015.

Activities

- 3.2 In total the Committee considered 8 final internal audit reports, one report, on IT Back Up procedures received just Limited Assurance, this contained two significant risks, around IT back-ups, which have since been addressed. The other seven reports received reasonable or comprehensive assurance ratings.
- 3.3 The Audit Committee completed its bi-annual self-assessment process and updated and strengthened the Induction & Development programme.
- 3.4 Additionally it considered and reviewed the company's Strategic and Operational risk registers for 2015/16 and fed comments through to the Board for its consideration as part of the approval process.
- 3.5 It also considered a report on the operational risks associated with Derby Homes taking on the service of managing Milestone House.

Monitoring Financial Integrity

- 3.6 The core work of the Committee is to maintain checks on the financial integrity of the Company, scrutinising the accounts and ensuring that audit recommendations are followed through by management of the company. In particular:
- approving the external audit strategy for 2015/16

- approving the internal audit plan for 2015/16
- receiving and evaluating the external audit management letters following the interim and final audit for 2014/15
- reporting to the Board on the 2014/15 accounts and providing additional support and reassurance to Board Members enabling them to adopt the accounts for 2014/15
- overseeing the implementation of a process supporting the production of a Statement of Internal Control for inclusion in the Annual Report of the Board of Directors, Auditor's Report to Members and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Monitoring and Reviewing Internal Financial Control

3.7 The Committee has done this by:

- scrutinising internal audit reports and questioning responsible officers at Committee meetings
- holding Executive officers accountable and probing potential areas of weakness.

3.8 I would like to record my appreciation and thanks for the time and effort Committee members have given to the important role of the Committee, which has seen some significant changes in membership this year.

3.9 I would also like to record my thanks to the officers from Derby Homes, Central Midlands Audit Partnership and BDO LLP who attend and support the work of the Committee.

4. FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The Derby Homes Scheme of Delegation undertakes to provide the Committee with sufficient resources to undertake its duties. The cost of this will be contained within the operating budget.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report

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| • Legal and Confidentiality | • Equalities Impact Assessment |
| • Consultation | • Health & Safety |
| • Personnel | • Risk |
| • Environmental | Policy Review |

If Board members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact the author:

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Background Information: None

Supporting Information: None