

LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

**AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES
24 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Members Present: David Andrews (Chairman) Gerry Lyons
Malcolm Cowan Graham McAndrew
Ross Houston Mari Stevenson (Deputy for Linda Haysey)

Apologies Received From: Linda Haysey

Officers Present: Simon Sheldon - Director of Finance & Resources
Beryl Foster - Director of Corporate Services
Keith Kellard - Finance & Systems Accountant
Lindsey Johnson - Committee Services Officer

Also Present: Debbie Hanson and Rachel Brittain – Ernst & Young

Part I

85 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

86 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2015 be approved and signed.

87 PUBLIC SPEAKING

No requests from the public to speak or present petitions had been received for this meeting.

88 EXTERNAL AUDITORS' AUDIT RESULTS REPORT Paper AUD/64/15
- 2014/15 ACCOUNTS

The Director of Finance & Resources introduced the report.

Debbie Hanson from Ernst & Young introduced the External Auditors Results Report where she informed Members that only small amendments had been made to the Annual Accounts which were not of sufficient detail for Members to be concerned.

A Member asked if the Authority would have to complete their accounts two months earlier like other local authorities in the future. Debbie Hanson replied that it would.

- (1) **the External Auditors' Audit Results Report for the Authority's 2014/15 Financial Accounts was noted; and**
- (2) **the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Director of Finance & Resources sign-off the 2014/15 Annual Accounts and the Letter of Representation (Appendix B to Paper AUD/64/15) was approved.**

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89 RISK REGISTER 2015/16

Paper AUD/63/15

The Director of Finance & Resources introduced the report, where Members were reminded that it was the Residual Risk Score that was important.

The Chairman asked how likely it was that non-payment of the levy would occur; officers responded that although the Authority had been challenged in the past, the challenge was unfounded.

Members also asked about the risks surrounding contaminated land. The Director of Corporate Services responded stating that the risk had been reduced by the strategy and policies that we have in place for dealing with contaminated land; we are still awaiting the results from some exploratory work, which may reduce the score further.

(1) the Authority's Strategic Risk Register (including all agreed changes recommended at this Committee meeting) attached at Appendix B to Paper AUD/63/15 was approved.

The Chairman thanked officers for all their work in getting the Annual Accounts completed, especially with the added difficulties with the split with the Trust this year.

Chairman

Date

The meeting started at 1pm and ended at 1.20pm.