

JOINT MEETING OF THE AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE AND THE FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

NOTE OF MEETING

Note of the Joint Meeting of the Audit & Risk and Finance & Resources Committees, held on Wednesday 29 November 2023 at 1000hrs via Microsoft Teams.

Present:

Jim Gifford
Dave Anderson
Iain Watt
Sheena Ross
David Blackhall
Neil Cowie
Carrie Beaton
Neil McLennan

In attendance:

Stuart Thompson, Vice Principal Finance & Resources
Susan Lawrance, Secretary to the Board
Karen Fraser, Minute Secretary
Anne MacDonald, Audit Scotland
David Archibald, Henderson Loggie

Agenda Item	
20-23	<p>Apologies for Absence Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from Leona McDermid, Bryan Hutcheson and Susan Elston. An invite was omitted to enable Mark Fotheringham to attend.</p>
21-23	<p>Declarations of any Potential Conflicts of Interest in relation to any Agenda Items J Gifford declared a potential conflict of interest by virtue of his position with Aberdeenshire Council and Agenda Item 29-23. N McLennan declared a potential conflict of interest by virtue of his positions with UoA and Moray Council.</p>
22-23	<p>Minute of Previous Meeting – 27 September 2023 The Minute was approved as a true and accurate record.</p>
23-23	<p>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting of F&R Committee Members noted the updates to Matters Arising Report with no further comments.</p>
	<p>Matters for Decision/Approval</p>
24-23	<p>Financial Statements for the year to 31 July 2023</p>

* denotes Reserved Item of Business

25-23	External Audit Report
	The meeting Chair was passed from J Gifford to S Ross
26-23	<p>Financial Regulations Update</p> <p>S Thompson furnished attendees with updates applied to the Financial Regulations, referencing Appendix 1 which comprised of a tracked changes document and relating incorporated changes to previous F&R Committee discussions and subsequent training delivered to NESCol's Leadership Team. Endorsements of the outlined amendments were shared, the rationale applied to the review date checked, and thanks expressed to S Thompson for the work undertaken.</p> <p>In response to a Members' query, the Delegated Limits and the mention of SSJ detailed in Appendix A were clarified, with A MacDonald voicing no concern in terms of the application of local flexibility.</p> <p>Upon conclusion of discussion, the Committees approved the updates. Decision = Approved.</p>
	Matters for Discussion
27-23	Management Accounts

28-23	ASET Update
	Matters for Information
29-23	Credits and Enrolments Update AY2023/24
30-23	<p>Any Other Business ETSH Updates (N McLennan)</p> <p>S Thompson confirmed that the first Meeting of the Project Board is scheduled to take place on 11/12/23, feedback from which will be shared with F&R Committee as a standing Agenda Item going forward, and also at the Regional Board Meeting on 13/12/23.</p>
31-23	<p>Summation of Actions and date of next meeting</p> <p>A summation of the identified actions was provided by S Lawrance. The date of the next Meeting of the F&R Committee was confirmed as 21/02/24.</p>

Actions from the Joint F&R/A&R Committee Meeting			
Agenda Item	Action	Responsible Person	Deadline
24-23			
25-23			

Signed:.....J Gifford (Interim Chair of Finance & Resource Committee)

Dated:.....21 February 2024