

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Performance and Audit Scrutiny
Committee - Audit Meeting held at
Surrey Heath House on 25 March 2015**

+ Cllr John May (Chairman)
+ Cllr David Allen (Vice Chairman)

+ Cllr Tim Dodds	+ Cllr Audrey Roxburgh
+ Cllr Alastair Graham	+ Cllr Pat Tedder
+ Cllr Beverley Harding	+ Cllr Alan Whittart
+ Cllr Edward Hawkins	+ Cllr John Winterton
+ Cllr Paul Ilnicki	+ Cllr Rodney Bates
+ Cllr Lexie Kemp	+ Cllr Glyn Carpenter
+ Cllr Chris Pitt	+ Cllr Liane Gibson
+ Cllr Joanne Potter	+ Cllr Ian Sams
+ Cllr Wynne Price	

+ Present
- Apologies for absence presented

In Attendance: Julia Hutley-Savage, Kelvin Menon, Andrew Crawford, Sarah Groom and Jessica Harris-Hooton

40/P Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Members to the meeting. He reported that he would be standing down as a Councillor at the election and thanked Members and Officers for their support and efforts during his chairmanship.

In respect of the work programme, the Chairman noted the Committee should have considered, at this meeting, a report on Audit recommendations agreed by service heads, but not implemented. He reported that, as all recommendations to date had been actioned, it had not been considered necessary to submit a formal report to the Committee.

41/P Minutes

The minutes of the Audit meeting of the Committee, held on 28 January 2015, were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

42/P Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 - Update

The Principal Solicitor reported on the purpose of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) and its application by the Council. She noted, in particular, that RIPA regulated the use of directed surveillance or the use of covert human intelligence sources and what steps were required to authorise officers under the Act.

In a recent inspection by the Office of Surveillance Commission, the Inspector stated that 'a very professional, efficient, knowledgeable and enthusiastic team of

officers is extremely very well placed to run a RIPA compliant operation, should the Council decide to make use of the RIPA provisions’.

Members noted that powers under this act could only be used to further the duties and responsibilities of the Council and if the matter under consideration could be a criminal act which would carry a minimum sentence of 6 months in prison. It was confirmed that, during the municipal year 2014/15, there had been no authorisations, reviews or renewals under RIPA for the carrying out of direct surveillance.

The Committee suggested that consideration be given to a RIPA briefing being incorporated as part of Members’ general induction training.

Noted, that there were no authorisations for directed surveillance granted during the 2014/15 municipal year.

Chairman