

Minutes of Meeting of Audit & Risk Committee

Date: 14 December 2017

Venue: 90 North King Street, Dublin 7.

Attendance

Committee: Moling Ryan (Chair), Melanie Pine, Ronan Nolan

Secretary: David Murphy

Executive: Helen Hall (Items 1.2 - 1.4), Aileen Healy, Clare Kelly

1. The following matters were considered and discussed as set out in the agenda:

1.1. Closed Session – Committee members only

1.2. Chair's opening remarks:

- Apologies;
- Agenda;
- Minutes;
- Chief Executive's update.

1.3. Governance:

- Draft Audit Committee work plan 2018;
- Update on Authority effectiveness review.

1.4. Audit:

- Financial Report;
- Internal Audit Workplan for 2017 – 2019.

1.5. Risk

- Review of Risk Register;
- Update from meetings of Chairs of Audit and Risk Committees in the Justice sector.

1.6. AOB

- Schedule of meetings for 2018.

Closed Session – Committee Members only

The Committee's discussed risk as a key responsibility of the Authority and recommended to the Authority that risk be discussed at its monthly meetings.

Opening Remarks

The agenda for the meeting was approved.

The Minutes for the previous meeting were approved and cleared for publication.

The Chief Executive updated the Committee on the ongoing work of the Authority, with particular reference to high priority and high risk items. The status of the 2017 Corporate Priorities and priorities for 2018 and relationships with key stakeholders, together with associated risks were also discussed.

Governance

The draft 2018 Work Plan for the Committee was discussed and it was decided that the Committee would review expenditure and related controls in relation to a specific budget line at each meeting, commencing with T&S and legal services.

It was agreed that, in light of the fact that the Authority were undertaking a review of the Authority's effectiveness in accordance with Section 62.O(2) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005, it was appropriate that this would also meet the Code of Practice requirement to undertake an annual self-assessment evaluation of the Authority and its Committees for 2017. However, it was agreed that Members of the Authority should complete the self-assessment questionnaire in order to compile longitudinal data on its effectiveness and that the resulting data would be reviewed by the Committee.

Audit:

The November Financial Report was reviewed. It was noted that work to transition the Authority's HR and Payroll provision to PeoplePoint and PSSC has commenced and is expected to be completed early in 2018.

The Committee reviewed the Internal Audit Work Plan for 2018 and agreed to bring forward one audit from 2019, defer one area for review until 2019 and to amend the sequence in which the audit work should be undertaken.

The Committee noted the status of work on ongoing internal audit reviews.

Risk:

The Committee discussed the format of the Risk Register and the reporting of risks to the Authority and it was agreed that a revised format would be considered at the next meeting. The importance of a 'living' approach to risk management was emphasised and it was agreed that this item would be revisited at the next meeting.

The Chair updated the Committee on the recent meeting of Chairs of Audit and Risk Committees in the Justice sector. The report on key risks by Vote Holders in the Justice and Equality sector was discussed and the risks to be included agreed.

Other Business

Committee meetings were scheduled for 13 February and 1 May 2018.