
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2016

Present: Councillors Barnes-Andrews (Chair), Inglis, Jordan, Noon, O'Neill and Keogh (Vice-Chair)

Apologies: Councillors Parnell

25. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

RESOLVED: that the minutes for the Committee meeting on 14th November 2016 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Matters Arising – Minute 18 – Southampton City Council Complaints Report 2015/16
The Chair reported that he had met with the Customer Relations Manager to progress how a summary of Stage 1 Complaints could be incorporated into the 2016/17 report and would be meeting again in February 2017 to progress further.

26. **CERTIFICATION OF CLAIMS AND RETURNS ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16**

The Committee received and noted the External Auditor's Annual Report on the Certification of Claims and Returns 2015/16 as detailed in the Appendix of the report.

The Committee noted that local authorities claimed large sums of public money in grants and subsidies from central government and other grant paying bodies and were required to complete returns providing financial information to government departments.

The Committee requested confirmation that the issues previously identified in relation to the PARIS system and payment of benefits was not impacting upon HRA Rent Rebates and any associated issues which Helen Thompson from Ernst & Young would feed back outside of the meeting.

27. **EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received and noted the external audit progress report against the Council's 2015/16 audit plan as detailed in the Appendix of the report. The Committee also noted the external auditors initial plans for the 2016/17 audit.