

Minutes of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee 5 September 2018

Present

John Hughes	Chair of Audit and Risk Assurance Committee
Venessa Willms	Board member
Dame Kathryn August	Board member
James Aston	Co-opted member
Helen Jesson	Co-opted member

Also in attendance

Amanda Spielman	Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, Accounting Officer
Louise Grainger	Director, Finance, Planning and Commercial
Sebastian Groth	National Audit Office
Stephen Morffew	National Audit Office
Jane Forbes	Internal Audit - PwC
Matthew Terry	Corporate Governance Manager
Sarah Thornton	Corporate Governance Officer
Saba Pooni	Audit and Governance Manager

Apologies

Matthew Coffey	Chief Operating Officer
Simon Helps	National Audit Office

1. Chairman's introduction, declarations of interest, minutes and matters arising

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members and attendees and noted there were no new declarations of interest.
- 1.2 The minutes of 20 June 2018 were agreed as an accurate record, subject to two minor corrections.

2. Report from Chair and Members

- 2.1 The Chair reported that he had met Karen Shepperson to discuss Ofsted's whistleblowing procedures.
- 3.1.1 The Committee noted that a date for a session on strategic risk with Care Quality Commission's (CQC) Board and Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) chairs had been scheduled.

Audit update

3. Progress against audit recommendations

- 3.1 Louise Grainger reported the progress against audit recommendations as of 23 August 2018.

4 Internal audit progress report

- 4.1 Jane Forbes updated the Committee on progress against the 2018-19 internal audit plan, explaining that since the Committee last met the internal audit reports relating to complaints about Ofsted and regulatory decision making had been issued. The Committee was content with the progress made against the 2018-19 internal audit plan.

5 External audit update

- 5.1 The National Audit Office (NAO) updated members on the value for money (VFM) audit activity within the education and social care sectors.
- 5.2 The NAO agreed to seek Ofsted's input into upcoming VFM work on the apprenticeship programme and support for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

6 Value for Money update

- 6.1 Members noted that the Ofsted Board had requested the ARAC oversee the implementation of the recommendations arising from the NAO's VFM report in order to provide assurance to the Board that their implementation is on track.
- 6.2 Louise Grainger presented a paper detailing progress made to date on the recommendations. The Committee was content with progress.

- 6.3 The Committee noted that on 25 June, HMCI and the Deputy Chief Inspector appeared before the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) to give evidence on the findings, and that the PAC's report would be published imminently.
- 6.4 The Committee agreed to review the tracker for the NAO's recommendations at future meetings.
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Risk update

7 Issued internal audit reports

- 7.1 Jane Forbes presented an update on audit activities since the Committee last met, including reports on regulatory decision making and complaints management.
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8 Risk Report

- 8.1 Louise Grainger presented the strategic risk report which was reviewed by the Executive Board on 28 August, providing an update on the review of the strategic risks.
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8 Finance Report

- 9.1 Louise Grainger reported the financial position as of the end of July 2018, which was noted by the Committee.
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10 Any other Business

None.

End of meeting

The next Audit and Risk Assurance Committee meeting will take place at 10.30am on Wednesday 7 November 2018, in Clive House room 403a.