

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority



MEETING	Fire Authority
DATE OF MEETING	14 October 2015
OFFICER	David Sutherland, Acting Director of Finance and Assets
LEAD MEMBER	Councillor Adrian Busby
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Treasury Management Governance Arrangements
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The purpose of this report's recommendations is to broaden the role of the Overview and Audit Committee and at the same time ensure that Executive business is, as far as possible, focussed more upon strategic decision making.</p> <p>It is, therefore, proposed that the Treasury Management monitoring reports should be considered by the Overview and Audit Committee as part of its 'overview' remit instead of the Executive Committee.</p> <p>This report does not propose to seek changes to any other 'performance review' currently undertaken by the Executive.</p> <p>Authority approval is required for the proposed change to Treasury Management monitoring. At its meeting on 13 February 2013, the Authority resolved to bring the Treasury Management function in-house and invest in its own name. It also resolved that a quarterly Treasury Management report be submitted to the Executive Committee, with an annual report being submitted to the Authority; and that the Overview and Audit Committee be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the Treasury Management Strategy and policies post implementation.</p> <p>It would, however, be good practice to allow Overview and Audit a more 'all-encompassing' role in Treasury Management and the annual Treasury Management strategy should also form part of its remit, providing a much closer link with the performance. Approval of the strategy would remain with the Authority, following recommendation from the Overview and Audit Committee.</p> <p>Given that the annual Treasury Management Strategy</p>

	<p>must follow the Authority's agreed policy terms and that in the current financial climate a safe and prudent strategy is the business 'norm', this is a reasonable addition to the Overview and Audit terms of reference.</p>
ACTION	<p>Decision.</p>
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Future Treasury Management monitoring reports be received by its Overview and Audit Committee. 2. The Overview and Audit Committee's terms of reference be amended so that it shall "Determine the Authority's Annual Treasury Management Strategy".
RISK MANAGEMENT	<p>The Treasury Management monitoring reports focus on a relatively small part of the Authority's financial affairs.</p> <p>It would be incumbent upon the Overview and Audit Committee to refer matters of concern back to the Executive which the Executive may continue to determine under its present terms of reference.</p>
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	<p>There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.</p>
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	<p>The recommendations accord with the Authority's terms of reference. The Overview and Audit Committee currently determines the Authority's Anti-Money Laundering; Whistleblowing; and Counter-Fraud and Corruption Policies. The recommendation would add Annual Treasury Management Strategy to this list of key responsibilities.</p>
CONSISTENCY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF COLLABORATION	<p>There are no collaboration issues arising from this report.</p>
HEALTH AND SAFETY	<p>There are no health and safety implications arising from this report.</p>
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY	<p>There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.</p>
USE OF RESOURCES	<p>Some minor revision to Financial Regulations will be required to reflect the proposals. Such changes are the responsibility of the Authority on receipt of recommendations from the Overview and Audit Committee. These changes will be incorporated into a separate report to Overview and Audit together with other unrelated changes.</p>

<p>PROVENANCE SECTION & BACKGROUND PAPERS</p>	<p>The terms of reference for the Executive Committee currently include at item 2, 'To assess performance of the Authority against agreed organisational targets'.</p> <p>The Executive Committee currently receives budget (Revenue and Capital) and Treasury Management monitoring reports as well as other organisational targets performance reports.</p> <p>Minutes of the meeting of the BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND MILTON KEYNES FIRE AUTHORITY held on WEDNESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2013</p> <p>http://bucksfire.gov.uk/files/3814/0622/0925/BMKFA17042013.pdf [pages 5 - 8 of PDF]</p>
<p>APPENDICES</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>TIME REQUIRED</p>	<p>10 minutes.</p>
<p>REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT</p>	<p>David Sutherland dsutherland@bucksfire.gov.uk 01296 744662</p>