

Agenda item 7 ES/018/11

Excerpt from the approved minutes of a meeting of the Audit Committee on 13 December 2010:

80. Transformation Programme Review

Louise Wishart introduced the report, explaining that the effective monitoring and management of the transformation project had previously been identified as a key risk. The risk-based audit plan had then identified this as an area for review. The main conclusions, which included the identification of significant risks, were set out in paragraphs 10 and 11, and the position would continue to be monitored in future years as part of the Council's financial resilience.

The Chairman commented that Members' understanding of the transformation project appeared to have increased as a result of better communication. Other improvements included the introduction of clear procedures for risk assessment and the establishment of a risk register.

The Committee expressed concern that the report's negative comments about partnership working were historical and not an accurate reflection of the current position. There was a danger that casual readers may not realise this, and also that partners may assume that the report's findings were based on negative comments made solely by the County Council. Ms Wishart confirmed that the report reflected circumstances at the time the review was undertaken and considerable progress had been made since then. It was agreed that a paragraph should be inserted at the beginning of the report clarifying the timescales involved, and that some commentary should be added with the online version emphasising the progress made.

The report was received, subject to the comments set out above, and it was agreed to refer it to the Executive Scrutiny Committee, which had responsibility for overview of the entire transformation project.

Resolved:

- (1) That the report be received, subject to the comments set out above.
- (2) That the report be referred to the Executive Scrutiny Committee for consideration.