



AN TÚDARÁS PÓILÍNEACHTA
POLICING AUTHORITY

Minutes of Meeting of Audit and Risk Committee

Date: 11 June 2019

Venue: 90 North King Street, Dublin 7.

Attendance:

Committee	Moling Ryan (Chair), Melanie Pine, Ronan Nolan
Secretary	Clare Kelly
Executive	Aileen Healy, Alexandre Eisenbarth, Anne Keeley – for item 1.4
Apologies	Helen Hall (Chief Executive)
Visitors	Vincent Tao (Partner)– Internal Audit Provider, Crowleys DFK - for Item 1.4(ii)

1. Agenda

The following matters were considered and discussed as set out on the agenda:

- 1.1 Closed Session – Committee members only
- 1.2 Chair's opening remarks:
 - (i) Apologies
 - (ii) Draft Agenda
 - (iii) Minutes and matters arising
 - (iv) Chief Executive's Update
- 1.3 Governance
 - (i) Outsourcing of Internal audit provider
- 1.4 Audit
 - (i) Financial Report
 - (ii) Draft Internal Audit Report of Freedom of Information and Protected Disclosures
- 1.5 Risk
 - (i) Risk Management Report
 - (ii) Risk Register
- 1.6 Other Business

2. Chair's Opening Remarks

The agenda was approved. The minutes of the Committee meeting on 19 March 2019 were approved and cleared for publication. The Committee log of actions was noted and there was agreement to close the items proposed.

The Head of Governance and Corporate Services gave an update on recent issues and events, including in relation to the Government Programme for Policing Reform, the Community Safety Discussion Event which is planned for July, staffing and the Superintendent competition which is currently underway and these were discussed by the Committee, with particular regard to risks arising.

3. Governance

It was noted that the term of office of the Chairperson had been extended by the Authority. In light of the terms of the other members being due to expire it was noted that the Authority will consider membership of the Committee, at its next meeting. It was agreed that the Committee members would complete the Committee self-evaluation survey for consideration at the next committee meeting.

The provision of an internal audit service was discussed, noting that the current contract to outsource the provision of this service is due to end in January 2020. It was agreed that it was appropriate to extend this arrangement, as provided for in the contract for a further year, subject to sanction and the agreement of the provider, and this will be recommended to the Authority.

4. Audit

The Finance Officer gave an update on the financial position and the monthly Financial Report was reviewed and discussed.

The Register of Audit Recommendations was noted, an update provided on a number of outstanding items and it was agreed to close the items proposed.

The Internal Audit partner presented the findings and recommendations of the internal audit review on the Authority's systems and procedures to ensure compliance with Freedom of Information (FOI) and Protected Disclosures legislation. The Committee discussed the findings and recommendations with the auditor, noting the audit conclusion that there were no significant findings arising. The Audit partner noted that implementation of a small number of low ranked recommendations as documented in the management comments will bring the Authority's policies and practices in line with the highest standards. In particular, the following matters were noted and welcomed by the Committee:

- Systems and procedures were found to be comprehensive, fit for purpose and in line with industry standards and staff were found to have a good understanding and awareness of them.
- The Authority was found to be in compliance with all the prescribed timing deadlines, based on samples selected for testing.
- The substantial strengths identified during the reviews as set out in a new section in the Audit reports.

The Committee approved the report for finalisation and submission to the Authority.

5. Risk

The Committee noted the Risk Management Report at 22 May 2019. The Risk Register was reviewed in detail and the status and actions to mitigate risks were discussed.

6. Other Business

The dates of meetings in 2020 were agreed.