



## Audit Committee

9 May 2019

### Internal Audit Scrutiny Group

**Purpose of Report:** Progress report

The Internal Audit Scrutiny Group met on 17 April 2019.

Members Expenses	The audit had highlighted that Members' expenses claims were not authorised. Whilst there was no evidence of fraud having taken place, duplicate claims had been made in error, although these were subsequently repaid. It was noted that it was each Member's responsibility to submit travel claims. An outcome of the report would be that Members would be reminded of the criteria for claiming expenses. Further training would also be provided to enable all Members to submit claims via the online portal without having to rely on Member Support staff.
Section 33 Agreements	These agreements between the Authority and the Powys Health Board should be in place by each year end to specify how joint services would be delivered and an apportionment of costs. There have been longstanding issues in signing these agreements off. Both organisations Chief Executives have now been given delegated powers by the Joint Partnership Board (JPB) to sign off the agreements for 2018/19 and 2019/20 during the first quarter of the current financial year. The JPB should have oversight of these arrangements and the Group question the governance arrangements around the JPB.
Clearance of Void Properties	The audit had demonstrated a lack of back office procedures in dealing with the clearance of void properties. It was essential that robust processes were in place to protect officers and clients. There was also a need to determine whether full cost recovery was being achieved. The service provides a significant social benefit as items can be recycled to the homeless or low income families. New procedures have been put in place and further meetings will take place with the Housing Service in May. The Group were concerned that there was a lack of work being generated through the Heart of Wales Property Services.

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**Background papers: Notes of meeting held on 17 April 2019**

**Members present on 17 April 2019: County Councillors J G Morris (Lead Member), W D Powell and Mr J Brautigam**