



Veritau Tees Valley Limited

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors By Video Conference 1.00 pm - 13 December 2022

Attendees

Richard Smith (RS)
Max Thomas (MT)
Phil Winstanley (PW) - chair
Justin Weston (JW)

- 1 Apologies, preliminaries, introductions and announcements
The Board welcomed Justin to his first meeting as a director.
- 2 Declarations of interests
MT and RS noted an indirect interest in item 6 (professional subscriptions) as employees of Veritau Limited, who will consider the same proposal.
- 3 Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2022
Agreed
- 4 Update on outstanding actions – verbal update
None
- 5 2022/23 finance and performance update report
The report presented the regular update on finance (accounts to the end of November 2022), staffing, and operations.

Finance: The final pay award was higher than expected, which has reduced overall profit. It is unlikely that budgeted profit levels will be achieved. For the group as a whole we expect to break even.

Staffing: It was confirmed that the final agreed pay award was in line with the national NJC agreement. Veritau has recently retained its Investors in People accreditation.

Operations: Veritau has gained Good Business Charter accreditation. The group has been very active in expanding the business and bringing on board new clients (as set out in 3.1 – 3.4 of the report). We have recently taken on Information Governance services for Scarborough Borough Council as part of a transfer in advance of LGR

Veritau is a group of companies registered in England and Wales. Registered office: West Offices, Station Rise, York, YO1 6GA.

Veritau Limited (06794890) is jointly owned by North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council. Veritau North Yorkshire Limited (07931990) is jointly owned by Ryedale District Council, Selby District Council, Richmondshire District Council, Hambleton District Council and Scarborough Borough Council. Veritau Tees Valley Limited (123636343) is jointly owned by Middlesbrough Council and Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council. For enquiries contact enquiries@veritau.co.uk

in April 2023. We are also managing the Harrogate internal audit team in the run up to transfer. We are currently in discussion with two other local authorities who may be interested in joining the Veritau group as members.

PJ asked about the reasons for delays in progressing actions set out in the business plan. MT explained that work connected to LGR is taking a significant amount of time. Given the limited resource we have available at a senior level, this has meant we've not been able to progress some actions as quickly as expected.

The Board noted the report.

6 Professional subscriptions

MT introduced the report and explained that the proposal is part of overall plans to address recruitment and retention issues. The costs are relatively modest but the proposal will provide a tangible demonstration of our intention to improve the employment offer. Some current employees have noted that this is something offered (or planned to be offered) by some Veritau member councils.

Following discussion, the board agreed the proposal.

7 Any other urgent business

None

Date of Next Meeting – TBC