

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 25th June, 2008 at 6pm
in Committee Room 3 at the Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillor Taylor (Chairman)
Councillor Kettle (Vice Chairman)
Councillors Ahmed, Attwood, J D Davies, J R Davies, Mrs D Harley and
Ms Nicholls

Officers:-

Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law and Property, Head
of Audit Services, Ms A Evans (Principal Auditor), Mr G Harrison and Mr
S Potter (Audit Managers), Senior Accountant and Mrs M Johal
(Directorate of Law and Property)

1	<u>APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE</u>
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An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of
Councillor Ali.

2	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>
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No member made a declaration of interest, in accordance with the
Members' Code of Conduct, in respect of any matter to be considered at
this meeting.

3	<u>MINUTES</u>
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RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10th
April, 2008, be approved as a correct record and signed.

4	<u>CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS</u>
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Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13(c), it was

RESOLVED

That agenda item Numbers 11 to 13 be considered as the next items of
business.

5 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as indicated below; and that in all the circumstances, the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Paragraph Numbers</u>
Annual Audit Report in Relation to the Directorate of Law and Property	2 and 7
Annual Audit Report in Relation to the Chief Executive's Directorate	2 and 7

6 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT IN RELATION TO THE DIRECTORATE OF LAW AND PROPERTY

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on the audit work undertaken in the Directorate of Law and Property for the 2007/2008 financial year and incorporating details of the more important findings.

RESOLVED

That the findings of the 2007/08 audit work be accepted.

7 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT IN RELATION TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DIRECTORATE

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on the audit work undertaken in the Chief Executive's Directorate for the 2007/2008 financial year and incorporating details of the more important findings.

RESOLVED

That the findings of the 2007/08 audit work be accepted.

8 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2007/08

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on the Statement of Accounts for 2007/08 and on the progress of the audit of the accounts.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to the Statement of Accounts, attached to the report submitted, for the 2007/08 financial year and that the Chairman sign and date the accounts.

9 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on the Annual Governance Statement that was to be published with the accounts for the 2006/2007 financial year. A copy of the correct version of Appendix C to that report was circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, and Appendices to the report, submitted on the Annual Governance Statement, be accepted.
 - (2) That approval be given to the submission of the Annual Governance Statement, as set out in Appendix C circulated at the meeting, for signature by the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council.
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10 ANNUAL REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on the annual review of the effectiveness of the system of internal audit that would form part of the Annual Governance Statement for the 2007/2008 financial year.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, and Appendices to the report, submitted on the review of the effectiveness of the system of internal audit, be accepted.

11 INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on an overview of the performance of Dudley Audit Services in the year to 31st March 2008, and to inform the Committee of the Head of Audit Services' opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's system of internal audit, internal control and risk management.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, and Appendices to the report submitted, on the performance of Internal Audit Services in 2007/08 be approved together with the opinion of the Head of Internal Audit on the effectiveness of the Council's system of internal audit, internal control and risk management.

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FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND STANDING ORDERS

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on a revision to Financial Regulations and progress on the review of Standing Orders.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report on the revised Financial Regulations be approved and the position with regard to Standing Orders, be noted.

The meeting ended at 7.45 pm

CHAIRMAN