

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2007, at 6.00pm  
in Committee Room 3 at the Council House, Dudley.

### **PRESENT:-**

Councillor Burston (Chairman)  
Councillors Attwood, J Davies, Kettle and Taylor

### **Officers:-**

Director of Finance, Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services, Director of the Urban Environment, Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services), Assistant Director Culture and Community Services (Directorate of the Urban Environment), Mr L Bradshaw (Acting Head of Audit Services), Ms S Downen (Principal Auditor), Mr G Harrison, Ms A Evans and Mr S Potter (Audit Managers), Mr J Boyle Project Officer Adult, Community and Housing Services) and Ms K Smith (Directorate of Law and Property).

### **Also in attendance:-**

Mr J Gregory (District Auditor) and Mr S Turner (External Auditor)

### 25 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Ali, Mrs Jordan, Ms Nicholls and Tyler

### 26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Member declared an interest in any item to be discussed at the meeting, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

### 27 **MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2006, be approved as a correct record and signed.

28 RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2007/08

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on key developments in the Council's Risk Management programme in the last twelve months and the Council's Risk Management Strategy for the period February 2007 to March 2008.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the information contained in the report, and Appendices to the report, submitted on the Council's Risk Management Strategy for 2007/2008, be accepted.
- (2) that the Risk Management Strategy for the period February 2007 to March 2008 and associated Risk Management Assurance Protocol be adopted.

29 TREASURY MANAGEMENT

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted outlining treasury management activity in the year 2006/07 up to the end of December and on the Treasury Strategy Statement 2007/08.

RESOLVED

- (1) That, subject to the approval of Council, the information contained in the report, and appendices to the report, submitted on the Treasury activities in 2006/07 be noted
- (2) the Treasury Strategy 2007/2008 attached as Appendix 1 to the report submitted, be approved
- (3) the Director of Finance be authorised to effect such borrowings, repayments and investments as are appropriate and consistent with the approved Treasury Strategy and relevant guidance

30 USE OF RESOURCES

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on those areas of the Annual Use of Resources Assessment, directly related to the Committee's Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report and Appendices to the report, submitted on the Annual Use of Resources Assessment directly related to the Committee's Terms of Reference, be noted.

30 AUDIT PLAN FOR THE 2007/2008 FINANCIAL YEAR

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on the work that the Audit Services Division planned to undertake during the financial year from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, submitted on the audit plan for the 2007/08 financial year, be noted, and that the audit plan for 2007/08 as set out in Appendix A to the report submitted, be approved.

31 ANNUAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION LETTER 2006

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter from the external auditors, the Audit Commission.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the information contained in the report, and Appendices to the report, submitted on the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and the views of the Auditor be noted
- (2) that the Inspection Letter be referred to the Cabinet

32 EXTERNAL AUDIT PLANS 2006/07 AND 2007/08

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on the proposed External Audit plans for 2006/07 and 2007/08.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report submitted be noted and that the External Audit Plans for 2006/07 and 2007/08 as set out in the Appendices to the report submitted be approved.

33 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that:-

- (a) they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1072 as indicated below; and
- (b) in all 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 No</u>
Report required under Standing Order 3.2	2 and 7
Annual Audit Report in relation To the Urban Environment Directorate	2 and 7
Annual Audit Report in relation To the Adult, Community and Housing Services Directorate	2 and 7

34 REPORT REQUIRED UNDER STANDING ORDER 3.2

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on cases arising under Standing Order 3.2 covering the period April to September 2006 inclusive.

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, and Appendices to the report submitted, be accepted.

35 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT IN RELATION TO THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on a summary of audit work undertaken in the Directorate of the Urban Environment for the financial year 2005/06.

RESOLVED

That the findings in respect of the 2005/06 audit work be accepted.

36 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT IN RELATION TO THE ADULT, COMMUNITY AND HOUSING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

A report of the Director of Finance was submitted on a summary of audit work undertaken in the Directorate of the Adult, Community and Housing Services for the financial year 2005/06.

RESOLVED

That the findings in respect of the 2005/06 audit work be accepted.

The meeting ended at 7:50 pm

CHAIRMAN