

AUDIT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6 AUGUST 2008

Present: Councillors J Bowman; S Meteer; G Scurrah; J G Sunderland, D Wilson, Mrs M Woodburn

Councillor A Holliday also attended the meeting in accordance with standing orders.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs J Hully, Deputy Chairman, and the Audit Commission

Officers: M Robinson, Audit and Fraud Prevention Manager; D A James Member Services Officer

K Dowle, Fraud Prevention Team Leader agenda items 1-4 & Item considered at item 5 – Fraud section monitoring report; W Halbert, Audit Technical Officer Agenda Items 1-5 and item considered at item 6 – Audit Services Monitoring Report

L Murphy, Chief Executive, Agenda Items considered at 6 & 7

AU 16 Appointment of Chairman for the meeting

In the absence of the Deputy Chairman it was moved by Councillor M Woodburn duly seconded and

RESOLVED – That Councillor G Sunderland be appointed Chairman for the meeting.

AU 17 Arrangement of the Agenda

Due to the chief executive being delayed for the commencement of the meeting it was moved duly seconded and

RESOLVED – That the agenda be rearranged that

- a) agenda item 5 be considered as item 7;
- b) agenda item 6 be considered as item 5; and
- c) agenda item 7 be considered as item 6.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting and arising from a motion passed at Full Council that a report be prepared on issues concerning the closure of accounts for 2006/07 and 2007/08 it was noted that the report would be submitted to the Audit committee in the first instance.

AU 18 **Minutes**

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on held on 26 June and reconvened on the 30th June 2008 be signed as a correct record.

AU 19 **Fraud Section Monitoring Report – First Quarter**

The report summarising the activities and performance against targets of the Fraud Team for the first quarter of the year was submitted and noted.

AU 20 **Audit Services Monitoring Report – First Quarter**

Members considered the Audit Services monitoring report for the first quarter of 2008/2009, setting out progress in the current year on all Priority 1 and 2 recommendations outstanding, and other audit work carried out in the quarter.

AU 21 **Closure of Accounts 2006 – 08**

(Note Councillor A Holliday left the meeting during consideration of this item)

Consideration was given to a report updating Members on the current position with regard to the closure of accounts following the problems that have arisen in closing off the 2006/07 Statement of Accounts and in preparing the 2007/08 Accounts

It was noted that following the appointment of Deloitte a briefing had now taken place and a diagnostic review had been carried out. Feedback from the diagnostic review and an action plan have been considered by the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council and the action plan is put before Members for consideration.

RESOLVED – That the report and action plan be noted and endorsed to achieve closure of the Statement of Accounts 2006-08.

The meeting closed at 4.05pm

Chairman