

DECISIONS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

21 December 2005

COMMITTEE:

*Councillor Wayne Casey (Chairman)
*Councillor Brian Coleman (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

* Claire Farrier	* Daniel Hope
* Mark Langton	Agnes Slocombe
* Leslie Sussman	

*denotes Member present

- 1. MINUTES:**
RESOLVED – That the decisions of the meeting held on 10 October 2005 be approved as a correct record.
- 2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS:**
No apologies for absence were received.
- 3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:**
There were no public questions.
- 4. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:**
No interests were declared.
- 5. MEMBERS' ITEMS:**
None were received.
- 6. SWIFT COMPUTER SYSTEM/SOCIAL SERVICE DEBT (ADULT SERVICES) (Report of the Chief Internal Auditor – Agenda Item 6)**
RESOLVED
 - (1) That the Committee note the report.
 - (2) That the Chief Internal Auditor be instructed to specifically address, in his next report on Social Services Income and Assessment:
 - (i) whether action was being taken by management which would assist the Council to recover the debt relating to residential accommodation which was not covered by charges on property;
 - (ii) whether the transfer of responsibilities relating to debt collection from the Income and Assessment Team to the Central Income Team would remove responsibility from those who should be accountable for the debt.

7. INTERNAL AUDIT INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT 2005/6 (Report of the Chief Internal Auditor – Agenda Item 7)

The Chief Internal Auditor advised that it had not been his practice to send copies of Internal Audit reports to the relevant Cabinet Members, although the reporting protocol was being revised.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Committee note the contents of the report.
- (2) That the Chief Internal Auditor be instructed
 - (a) to carry out a follow-up report within six months in all cases where the Internal Audit report showed a high level of seriousness coupled with no assurance
 - (b) when these cases were reported back to the Committee after a follow-up audit had been completed showing limited implementation of recommendations, to request the Head of Service to attend the Committee meeting and to invite the appropriate Cabinet Member.

8. FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS, BARNET HOMES (Report of the Head of Housing – Agenda Item 8)

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Committee note the arrangements summarised in the report.
- (2) That a copy of the Head of Housing's report be sent to the Council's appointed representatives on Barnet Homes' Management Board and the Cabinet Member for Community Services, with a copy of this decision.
- (3) That the Head of Housing be instructed to follow-up with Barnet Homes the issue of appointment of a new internal auditor, and to investigate whether any external audits had been carried out on Barnet Homes' internal governance arrangements and to report back to a future meeting of the Committee.

9. EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REVISED REPORT UNDER STATEMENT OF AUDITING STANDARDS (SAS) 610 FOR THE YEAR 2004/05 (Report of the Borough Treasurer – Agenda Item 9)

RESOLVED

- (1) That the additional matters raised by the external auditor relating to detailed aspects of the 2004/05 accounts audit be noted.
- (2) That the management response to matters raised by the external auditor be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.24 pm