DECISIONS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

4 April 2006

COMMITTEE:

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

Councillors:

- * Claire Farrier
- * Mark Langton
- * Leslie Sussman

Daniel Hope

* Ansuya Sodha (substituting for Agnes Slocombe)

*denotes Member present

1. MINUTES:

RESOLVED – That the decisions of the meeting held on 15 February 2006 be approved as a correct record.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Agnes Slocombe and Daniel Hope.

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. AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS, BARNET HOMES (Report of the Head of Housing – Agenda Item 6)

RESOLVED – That the Committee note the internal audit arrangements within Barnet Homes, as described in the report.

7. 2006/7 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL PLAN (Report of the Chief Internal Auditor – Agenda Item 7)

RESOLVED – That the Audit Committee approve the draft 2006/7 Internal Audit Annual Plan.

8. ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2004/05 (Report of the Chief Executive, Director of Resources, Chief Finance Officer and Head of Corporate Performance Office - Agenda Item 8)

RESOLVED -

- 1. That the Audit Commission Audit & Inspection Letter be accepted as a reasonable statement on the Council's position in respect to financial standing, and financial and performance management arrangements.
- 2. That the Chief Finance Officer and Head of Corporate Performance be instructed to develop an action plan to respond to the Audit & Inspection Letter and this be reported to the next meeting of this Committee.

9. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2006/07 (Report of the Deputy Director of Resources and Chief Finance Officer – Agenda Item 9)

The Chairman suggested that the proposed member briefings, workshops and seminars should include the role and responsibilities of internal audit, internal controls, risk management, value for money, anti-fraud and corruption and whistle blowing.

RESOLVED -

- 1. That, subject to the Council approving the revised terms of reference recommended at the last meeting of the Audit Committee, and approved by the Special Committee (Constitution Review), the programme of work as set out in Appendix A to the report be approved, with the addition of a report to the June 2006 meeting on the action plan in response to the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter 2004/05;
- 2. That the Democratic Services Manager be instructed to investigate alternative dates for some of the scheduled meetings of the Audit Committee as detailed in paragraph 8.4 of the report.
- 3. That the Committee approved the proposals for member briefings, workshops and seminars as set out in paragraph 8.10 of the report.

10. VOTE OF THANKS:

This being the last meeting of the Municipal Year, the Chairman thanked the Members, in particular Councillors Langton and Sussman who would not be returning to the Committee, and extended his thanks to Councillor Sussman for his work on the Audit and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was the Audit Committee's predecessor.

The Vice–Chairman, on behalf of the Sub-Committee, thanked the Chairman, for the open, free and fair manner in which he had conducted meetings of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.41 pm