

DECISIONS OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

5 December 2006

COMMITTEE:

*Councillor Jeremy Davies BA (Hons) CPFA (Chairman)

*Councillor Daniel Thomas BA (Hons) (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

Danish Chopra
* Dean Cohen BSc (Hons)
* Geof Cooke

\$ Richard Cornelius
* Marina Yannakoudakis BSc
(Hons) MA

*denotes Member present

1. MINUTES:

RESOLVED – That the decisions of the meeting held on 16 November 2006 be approved as a correct record.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS:

Apologies were received from Councillor Richard Cornelius who was attending another Committee meeting and from Councillor Danish Chopra.

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. EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT ON GRANTS SUBMISSION PROCESS
(Report of the Chief Finance Officer – Agenda Item 6)**

RESOLVED –

(1) That the matters raised by the external auditor relating to the grants submission and certification process be noted.

(2) That the officer response to the matters raised by the external auditors be noted.

(3) That the External Auditor be instructed to submit a progress report on this issue to the Committee in February or March 2007.

7. ITEM CONSIDERED AS THE CHAIRMAN HAD AGREED IT WAS URGENT: APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR (Report of the Deputy Director of Resources & Chief Finance Officer – Agenda Item 7)

As a response had to be made to the Audit Commission by 22 December 2006 on its proposals for the appointment of the Council's external auditor, following on from the completion of the current arrangement with RSM Robson Rhodes LLP, the Chairman agreed to the Committee considering the report of the Deputy Director of Resources & Chief Finance Officer as a matter of urgency.

RESOLVED – The Committee agree to the appointment by the Audit Commission of RSM Robson Rhodes LLP as the Council's external auditor for a further term of five years commencing with the audit of the 2007/08 accounts, and request that the Chief Executive respond to the Audit Commission accordingly by the deadline of 22 December 2006.

The meeting closed at 7.57 pm