

Time Commenced: 6.00pm
Time Finished: 7.10pm

**AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
4 FEBRUARY 2009**

Present: Councillor Roberts – Chair
Councillors Graves, Harwood, Holmes, Jackson and Willoughby

51/08 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allen and Troup

52/08 Late Items

There were no late items.

53/08 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

54/08 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2008 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the inclusion of Councillor Graves apologies for absence.

**55/08 Appointment of Members of the Independent
Remuneration Panel for Members' Allowances**

The Committee considered a report which stated that at its meeting on 24 September 2008, the Committee resolved to approve the appointment of two additional members on the Independent Remuneration Panel for Members' Allowances (IRP) by the Director of Corporate and Adult in conjunction with the Chair and Vice Chair.

It was subsequently agreed with the Chair and Vice Chair to combine the recruitment and selection process for the two additional members of IRP with a concurrent exercise to appoint an additional independent member of the Council's Standards Committee. The selection panel consisted of the three current independent members of the Standards Committee, Councillor Willoughby (Vice Chair of the Audit and Accounts Committee) and Ian Samways, Chair of the IRP.

An advertisement was placed in the Derby Evening Telegraph and seven applications were received. All applicants were invited for an interview and six attended. The Panel decided to offer positions on the IRP, subject to references, to Arthur Burns and Gill Taylor. Satisfactory references for both people were subsequently received.

Arthur Burns is a former Director of Engineering with Boots plc and self-employed project consultant. He has also been an independent member of the Derbyshire Police Authority. Gill Taylor is a midwife, a staff representative on the Council of Governors of a Derby NHS Trust, a Royal College of Midwives representative involved in staff negotiations, and a member of Derby City Council Gender Diversity Forum.

Resolved

1. To note the completion of the process of recruiting additional members to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Members' Allowances.
2. To confirm that appointment of Arthur Burns and Gill Taylor to the Panel for a term of office expiring on 31 December 2012.
3. To reappoint Sue Holmes to the Panel for a further three year period from 1 January 2009.
4. To note the retirement of Nigel Sutherland from the Panel and to take no action at the present time to fill the consequent vacancy on the Panel; and to authorise the Director of Corporate and Adult Services, in consultation with the Chair, to fill the vacancy in the future if this is considered necessary.

Governance

56/08 Review of Contract Procedure Rules

The Committee considered a report which set out:

- How the current Contract Procedure Rules have been reviewed
- The main aims of the review
- The main changes proposed
- How staff would be made aware of and trained on the new rules

Resolved

1. To recommend to Council at the Annual Meeting in May 2009 that the revised Contract Procedure Rules ("The Rules") with appropriate amendments be adopted.

2. To authorise the Chief Legal Officer in consultation with the Head of Procurement to make minor amendments and additions to the revised Rules prior to adoption by full Council.
3. To thank the Chief Legal Officer and his team for the hard work put into revising the procedures.

57/08 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider a resolution to exclude the press and public during consideration of the following items:

“that under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information”

58/08 Latest Internal Audit Investigations

The Committee considered confidential information on the latest Internal Audit investigations

Resolved

1. To note the report.
2. To request the Head of Internal Audit to provide a report on how much fraud was costing the Council.
3. To request the Director of Resources to provide a report on controls over cash.

MINUTES END