

Time started – 1:00 pm
Time finished – 1:40 pm

**SPECIAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
26 SEPTEMBER 2003**

Present: Councillor Burgess (in the Chair)
Councillors P J Hickson, Care, Graves and Nath

05/03 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gupta, Smalley and Williamson.

06/03 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

07/03 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

08/03 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a correct record subject to the corrected spelling to Councillor Nath's name, and signed by the Chair.

09/03 Statement of Accounts 2002/2003

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Finance, setting out the Statement of Accounts 2002/03.

The draft Statement of Accounts was approved at Council on Tuesday 16 September 2003, subject to the completion of the audit of accounts and subsequent changes. The Committee were given delegated authority to approve the final Statement of Accounts.

It was reported that the final audit was not fully complete for 2 reasons:

- The auditors PWC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) did not commence until early September 2003.
- PWC were new auditors and therefore needed to familiarise themselves with the system.

The Committee was informed that they were still able to approve the

accounts without them being complete and if a problem was found by the auditors they could be brought back again for further approval.

It was noted that the completion of the Statement of Accounts would be brought forward by 1 month for the next 3 years to eventually have them finished by the end of June each year.

Resolved:

- 1. To approve the Statement of accounts for 2002/03**
- 2. If necessary, to consider any further issues raised by the external auditor at a further meeting.**

10/03 Appointment of Members to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Members' Allowances

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services, which set out the need to reconstitute the Independent Remuneration Panel due to new regulations and statutory guidance that were issued this year. The regulations stated that Members of the Standards Committee could not also be Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel. It was necessary, therefore for the Council to appoint at least 3 new members to the Panel from 1 January 2004.

Resolved to recommend Council:

1. To confirm previous decisions:
 - that the Independent Remuneration Panel comprise five members
 - that, subject to 3 below, the members of the Panel will normally be appointed for a three year term of office and existing members are eligible for re-appointment
 - that the Chair of the Panel be appointed by, and from among, the Panel Members
 - that the Director of Corporate Services act as Secretary to the Panel
 - that travel and subsistence allowances be offered to the Members of the Panel in accordance with the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme.
2. To invite the two current representatives of the Southern Derbyshire

Chamber (Mr Jinks and Mr Tapping) to continue for a further two year period from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2005, and to recruit a further three members to replace the independent members of the Standards Committee

3. To stagger terms of office so that, after a transitional period, members are eligible for re-appointment in successive years.

4. To invite the following stakeholder organisations to nominate suitable people as candidates for the three vacant places on the Panel, and to inform the organisations that nominations will be particularly welcome from minority ethnic people, disabled people and women, who are currently under-represented on the Panel.

- Southern Derbyshire Chamber
- University of Derby
- Derby Council for Voluntary Service
- Derby Racial Equality Council
- Derby Area Trades Union Council
- Derby Chamber of Trade
- Derby City Partnership
- Millennium Network

5. To establish an Appointment Panel, comprising Mr Jinks, Mr Tapping and the Assistant Director – Personnel and Equalities, to select three members from the nominations received and recommend their appointment as members of the Independent Remuneration Panel

6. To delegate all powers and duties in respect of appointments to the Independent Remuneration Panel to the Special Purposes Committee.

MINUTES END