

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE AUDIT BOARD

MONDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER 2008, AT 5.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors S. R. Peters (Chairman), Miss D. H. Campbell JP (during Minute No's 27/08 and 28/08), Ms. H. J. Jones, Mrs. C. J. Spencer and E. C. Tibby

Observers: Councillor G. N. Denaro

Officers: Mr. T. Beirne, Ms. J. Pickering, Ms. K. Firth and Ms. P. Ross

24/08 **RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR C. R. SCURRELL AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE AUDIT BOARD**

The Chairman informed Members of the resignation of Councillor Scurrrell as Vice Chairman, due to the Council decision that the position of Chairman and Vice Chairman should be held by Members from opposition groups.

RESOLVED that the position be noted.

25/08 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C. R. Scurrrell and Ms E. Caves, District Auditor, the Audit Commission.

26/08 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

27/08 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Audit Board held on 15th September 2008 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

28/08 **AUDIT COMMISSION'S INTERNATIONAL STANDARD ON AUDITING (ISA 260)**

The Chairman welcomed Mr. D. Evans, Audit Manager with the Audit Commission, the Council's appointed Auditor. Mr. Evans presented the Annual Governance Report for 2007/08.

It was noted that the Auditor expected to issue an unqualified opinion in relation to the Authority's accounts. In addition it was reported that the Authority had met all 12 of the criteria in relation to economy, effectiveness and efficiency as determined by the Audit Commission which was an improvement on previous years. Regarding financial statements, the statements submitted for audit were of a good standard and although a small number of amendments had been made these were minor in nature and reflected improvements or refinements to the disclosures in the financial statements.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Annual Governance Report for 2007/08 be noted and approved;
- (b) that the management response to the Annual Governance Report for 2007/08 identifies that the related party transactions have been properly recorded and where appropriate, adequately disclosed in the financial statements; and
- (c) that the draft letter of representation on behalf of the Council as set out at Appendix 1 to the Annual Governance Report be approved; this includes the Council's response to the changes requested on the accounting for prepayments. This issue will be addressed as part of the accounts for 2008/09.
- (d) that the thanks of the Board be expressed to both internal officers and the Audit Commission for the valuable and beneficial working relationship which had taken place during the audit process.

The meeting closed at 5.20 p.m.

Chairman