

SPECIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

Friday 30 September 2005 at 6.00 p.m.

Conference Room at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor Rose Martin (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Keith Chambers
Councillor Albert Griffiths
Councillor Cath Micklewright
Councillor Mohammad Munir
Councillor Ian Robertson
Councillor Mrs. Doreen Shires

212/05 Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillors Turner and Pitt.

213/05 Changes in Membership

The Committee noted the under-mentioned changes in Membership for the duration of the meeting:-

Delete:	Councillor Turner
Substitute:	Councillor Munir

Delete:	Councillor Pitt
Substitute:	Councillor Micklewright

214/05 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

215/05 Deputations and Petitions

There were no deputations received or petitions submitted.

216/05 Late items to be introduced by the Chairman

There were no late items.

217/05 **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**

Resolved

There were no items on the agenda for the meeting in respect of which the Committee considered that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

Non-Executive Functions

218/05 **Statement of Accounts 2004/05 (Post Audit)**

The report of the Executive Director was submitted:-

(see annexed)

The Statement of Auditing Standard (SAS) 610 report from the Audit Commission was handed to Members present at the meeting.

Brian Warwick reported that the accounts had been submitted by the statutory deadline. He advised that John Gregory could not attend this meeting so arrangements had been made for the accounts to be signed off on Monday, 3 October 2005.

Referring to paragraph 4 of the report, Brian indicated that there were no mis-statements to be brought to the attention of the Committee.

Referring to the change from LAFIS to Oracles Financials, Brian reported that the staff had been involved in a steep learning curve. This had meant it had taken management longer to close the accounts and for the Audit Commission to audit them. However, all deadlines had been met.

Referring to problems with working papers, Brian indicated that a comprehensive minimum standard set of working papers had been agreed with management.

He drew attention to two instances where the Audit Commission had been refused information when requested. This had been resolved speedily by management.

Following questions from Members, it was:-

Resolved

That the Committee:-

- (1) receives the Statement of Auditing Standard (SAS) 610 report from the Audit Commission on the audit of the 2004/5 statement of accounts and endorses the key messages contained in Appendix 1;
- (2) notes that there have been agreed amendments made to the accounts during the audit;
- (3) receives and endorses the final post-audit Statement of Accounts for 2004/5;
- (4) authorises the Executive Director to distribute copies of the audited statement of accounts to all partners and stakeholders.

Termination of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 6.25 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: